



Ale and hearty

Hundreds toast success of popular beer festival

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Motoring

Latest models revealed in 12-page supplement

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Sport

Daniel powers his way to more swimming golds

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X Factor star takes on role of war poet



James Michael

FORMER X Factor contender James Michael will play the lead role in a West End show based on the life of Oswestry war poet Wilfred Owen.

The singer, who featured in series eight of the ITV show, will be in the cast of *Bullets and Daffodils* when it hits the West End for a week of shows.

The musical debuted in Oswestry in 2010 and has never been shown at London's West End for an entire week before.

Directed by Christopher Timothy, the production is described as being a passionate tribute to Owen, the World War One poet who was born at Plas Wilmot in Oswestry in 1893.

It will be performed at the Tristan Bates Theatre in Covent Garden for the first week of July.

Mr Michael was seen on TV clashing with judge Gary Barlow over a song choice but he is now stretching his musical abilities by taking part in the show, written by Birkenhead songwriter Dean Johnson.

It will be Mr Michael's first theatre role, although he will continue to write and perform.

Community garden date

AFTER a year of hard work volunteers are ready to unveil their new community garden.

The Whole Life Christian Centre, in Cabin Lane, will be holding an official opening on Saturday from 2pm.

Oswestry Town Mayor Councillor Martin Bennett will be there to help volunteers celebrate.

BNP WILL CONTEST SEATS ON COUNCIL

THE British National Party will contest two seats in Oswestry at the Shropshire Council elections in May.

Jennifer Matthys, the daughter of the party's leader, Nick Griffin, is a candidate in the Oswestry West ward while in Oswestry East her husband, Angus Matthys, is standing against the town's mayor and deputy mayor for a seat on the unitary authority.

The BNP made its voice heard in Oswestry recently when it objected to a planning application for a Muslim Centre in a former chapel, an application that was supported by many local people.

However, it had to be withdrawn when the Muslim community decided that work to restore the building would be too expensive.

by Graham Breeze

Simon Darby, spokesperson for BNP, said: "We are pleased that Jennifer Matthys is standing."

"We have had a bit of a run-in with the local Islamic community trying to get a mosque in Oswestry so that is going to be an issue."

"It is nice to see candidates standing in relatively new areas. Oswestry is a nice little place, we want it to stay that way."

One of the leading lights in the Muslim community in Oswestry, well known and popular businessman George Miah, is to become a councillor.

Mr Miah put his name forward as a candidate in the Cabin Lane ward on Oswestry Town Council and will be returned unopposed.

The elections on May 2 see Oswestry councillor, Bill Benyon, standing down in Oswestry East.

Sitting

There are five candidates for the two seats in the Oswestry West ward: sitting member and Oswestry Town Mayor, Councillor Martin Bennett, deputy mayor, Chris Schofield, both Conservative, town councillor and independent, Peter Cherrington, and Graeme Curry for Labour.

There are just two candidates in the Oswestry East ward, Mrs Matthys and the sitting councillor, Vince Hunt.

In the Oswestry South division the leader of Shropshire council, Keith Barrow, is opposed by three other candidates: Penny Cotton for UKIP, Romer Hoseason, Liberal Democrat, and Duncan Kerr, Green Party.

Others guaranteed a seat on the town council include current mayor, Martin Bennett, deputy mayor, Chris Schofield, Peter Cherrington, Margaret Chamberlain, John Gareth Jones and Bill Benyon, as well as two other new faces, Chris Stokes and John Price.

Not seeking re-election are Val Schofield, Heather Bickerton, Owen Jones and Moira Benyon.

Councillor Steve Haworth has had to stand down because of boundary changes.

Birthday fundraiser on menu



Staff from the Simla restaurant in Oswestry are preparing to celebrate 37 years of business with a fundraising night for cancer charities. Getting ready for the occasion are owner George Miah, left, and Luthfur Rahman.

Picture: Peter Flemmich

A BUSINESSMAN will be celebrating his restaurant's 37th birthday by holding a fundraising event for charity.

Each year George Miah, who runs The Simla in Beatrice Street, Oswestry, holds an annual event to mark another year of serving Indian and Bangladeshi meals to customers.

This year it will be held on Thursday, May 30, from 7pm until late.

People attending will be treated to a five-course banquet as well as entertainment, a chance to win a prize on the raffle and a quiz.

All money raised on the night will go towards the Macmillan Cancer Support charity and Cancer Research.

Mr Miah said: "This year we are celebrat-

ing our 37th year in business in Oswestry. To celebrate the occasion we have decided the night will be in aid of cancer charities.

"I have lost a couple of friends through cancer and so I think it is a very important charity."

"I also know a young lad who has cancer. I think we can not do enough for the charity."

"They do an extremely fantastic job which I have seen them do with my own eyes."

Mr Miah said he would like to see many people and other businesses attend the event and support the charity fundraiser.

Macmillan Cancer Support provides practical, medical and financial support and also works to push for better cancer care.

Search on for owners in pylons corridor

A SEARCH has been launched to find owners of parcels of land on the potential corridor for pylons that could connect wind farms in Mid Wales to Britain's electricity network.

National Grid wants to discover who owns unregistered land in the path of the controversial pylons. And they have called on people living in Shropshire and Mid Wales to help them identify any owners to allow the project to proceed.

The power company wants to build a 400,000 volt electricity line across the Shropshire border to feed the electricity generated from wind farms in Mid Wales into the national power network.

An electricity substation will be built at Cefn Coch, west of Welshpool, which will be linked to the main network at Lower Frankton, near Ellesmere.

Staff are currently carrying out surveys to identify how the connection should be built, including whether overground power lines and pylons or underground cables should be used.

But there are a number of plots of land that are unregistered and National Grid bosses say they need to find out who owns them so surveys can be carried out.

Jeremy Lee, lead project manager, said: "We are currently undertaking surveys on land where we have been granted access by landowners on a voluntary basis."

Contact Bruton Knowles at Freeport, Land Rights BK on 0800 038 0660 or email midwaleslrs@brutonknowles.co.uk

Witness call over assault

POLICE are appealing for witnesses after an early morning assault in Welshpool.

They are investigating a report of an assault on a young man which happened in the early hours of Sunday in Salop Road in the town.

Anyone with information is asked to contact police at Welshpool on 101.

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Costs force society to axe Muslim centre plan

PLANS TO turn a former Oswestry church into the town's first Muslim prayer centre have been abandoned because of cost.

Members of the Oswestry Muslim Society had hoped to transform a 19th century former Presbyterian church in Oswald Road into a permanent base for meetings and prayer services.

But the plans, which attracted opposition from the British National Party, have been dropped, it has been confirmed.

George Miah, from the Oswestry Muslim Society, said the group was reluctantly walking away from the project but said the hunt would continue for a permanent home. He said: "It is a lovely building but we have come to realise that it is just too big for what we need and the cost to develop it would be too great for our community."

by Graham Breeze

Investigation as elderly couple manage to flee blaze at home

AN elderly couple fled their home on Tuesday after a fire ripped through the roof of the property in Ruten-XI-Towns.

A man in his 70s was treated for smoke inhalation after the blaze at the bungalow after more than 20 firefighters battled the fire at the semi-detached home in School Road at about 4am, which destroyed much of the roof.

Brian Welti, watch manager at Baschurch Fire Station, said an elderly couple were sleeping when they were alerted to the blaze by smoke alarms and managed to escape before firefighters arrived.

The fire started in the attic and firefighters are carrying out investigations into how it started.

Three neighbours rushed outside to help the couple.

Mr Welti said: "The couple woke up and managed to get out safely. When we got there there was smoke and flames through the roof."

"It is fortunate that they had working smoke alarms."

Steve Parry, a West Midlands Ambulance Service spokesman, said the man did not need to be taken to hospital.

"We only have about 40 to 50 people who regularly come to the group and we have already spent about £3,000 to get to this stage."

"We just don't have the funding to carry out the further work and it is a great shame because we hoped to be able to use the building."

"But the fundraising will continue because we do want to find a building suitable for our meetings."

"We are looking for a smaller place somewhere in Oswestry which does not need a lot of work."

Policy

Mr Miah, an Oswestry restaurant owner, said the group would continue to hold prayer meetings at the Eastern Oswestry Community Centre until a new base was found.

The application did not go before Shropshire councillors for consideration at a planning committee after officers ruled that because it fitted policy permission could be given under delegated powers.

That decision sparked a complaint for the BNP who had urged people to object to the plans and had held 'action days' in Oswestry to make its opposition known.

Mr Miah said despite the controversy he had been touched by the number of Oswestry people who had supported the group's search for a home.

Rail line celebrates its 50th



Chairman Alan Higgins addresses visitors from the same wagon used by the railway's first chairman in 1963.

Picture: Andrew Charman

THE Welshpool & Llanfair Light Railway has celebrated 50 years since reopening as a volunteer operated preserved railway.

Saturday marked the exact time of the 50th anniversary of the reopening in 1963, seven years after the eight-mile long narrow gauge line had been declared uneconomical by British Railways and closed.

Throughout the weekend the railway's usual service trains were joined by special nostalgia trains, running from Llanfair Caereinion to Castle Caereinion.

On Saturday, almost to the hour of the 50th anniversary, chairman Alan Higgins spoke from a wagon parked in Llanfair station, the same wagon that the railway's first chairman, Sir

Thomas Salt, stood on to make the opening day speech in 1963.

He praised the many achievements of volunteers and staff.

These include obtaining, restoring and maintaining locomotives and rolling stock from across the world, relaying track and rebuilding stations and building an entirely new station at Welshpool.

Many took the opportunity over the weekend to ride the nostalgia trains, including several members who were present on the opening day in 1963.

The carriages of these trains were decorated with storyboards describing the line's preservation and the many achievements made in the past half-century.

Action on problem tenants of estate

A FRESH crackdown on anti-social behaviour is underway at an arson-hit Oswestry housing estate.

Tenants of Castlefields took part in a consultation event with housing officers to discuss problems on the estate.

The area has been the regular victim of spates of arson attacks and officers at Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing, the body which took over the running of council housing in the county on April 1, say new initiatives are being introduced to tackle the problems.

Emma Feely, resident involvement officer from the housing group, said: "One particular problem has been fires. Tenants are genuinely worried about the fires and we have been discussing what can be done. We have discussed where bins should be located and also whether CCTV cameras would help."

The Castlefields area suffered various arson attacks last year and they have continued this year with the most recent incident being reported in February when a wheelie bin was set alight.

Mrs Feely said people wanting to become tenants on Castlefields would face more stringent processes before they got a house.

Under a new Local Lettings Plan potential tenants would have to have an interview and be asked to provide references from their previous landlord before they are considered for a house. Police checks will also be carried out.

Oswestry police community support officer Hannah Bishop said: "Sometimes tenants are reluctant to speak to us but will raise a problem with the council and sometimes they come to us and we can pass it on to the council."

"It is all about teamwork."

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MAY

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14th - 18th JACOBITE STEAM EXPERIENCE - West End Hotel***, Fort William 5 Days £420
14th - 21st AUSTRIA - MEADOWS & PEAKS - Edelweiss Hotel***, Lermos 8 Days £635
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NEWS

Business
in bid to
attract
talented

MORE NEEDS to be done to keep talented youngsters in Mid Wales to help boost the region's economy, business bosses have claimed.

The newly-launched Mid Wales Chamber of Commerce said it will work hard to ensure the most talented young workers stop leaving the area for larger towns and cities by creating better opportunities in the area.

Hannah Barrett, chairman, said the chamber would meet to discuss where skills are lacking in Montgomeryshire and what can be done to encourage more people to stay.

She said: "One of the biggest challenges we face in mid Wales is the skill gap that sees much of our talent relocating to other parts of the country to find work."

During its latest meeting, the chamber established its new council, made up of seven business people from Powys and Ceredigion.

The council includes chairman Hannah Barrett, of CastAlum, an aluminium diecaster based in Welshpool and the Mid Wales Manufacturing Group; Shane Perkins, from Mid Wales Housing Association; Anne Smith, from Harrison's Solicitors, Welshpool; and Simon Pirotte, principal of Coleg Powys.

For details call 01686 628024 or visit www.mid-waleschamber.co.uk

Couple to open
up their garden

A COUPLE from Welshpool will be opening their gardens to the public later this month.

Mel and Heather Parkes will be inviting members of the public to stroll around their gardens at Number 1 Church Bank as part of the National Garden Scheme on Saturday and Sunday, April 20 and 21. Entry is £3.

New boss takes the reins at
town chamber of commerce

A NEW chairman has taken up the reins at Oswestry Chamber of Commerce.

Heather Noble, of Salt Solutions in Gobowen, has been elected to take over the role from last year's chairman Martin Anderson.

She said that she hoped to use her position to carry on 'strengthening and broadening the reach Oswestry'.

Mrs Noble said: "I'm delighted to be taking over the reins from Martin Anderson who has done some incredible work for Oswestry Chamber of Commerce over the past 12 months."

by Graham Breeze

Hopes of cut to
speed limit on
bypass dashed

A PLEA for a cut in the speed limit on the entire length of the A483 Oswestry bypass has failed, disappointed councillors have learned.

A speed limit reduction from 60mph to 50mph was imposed last year on a stretch of the road at the notorious Maesbury Road junction after a series of serious crashes.

Oswestry town councillors had written to the Highways Agency calling for the entire bypass's speed limit to also be reduced by 10mph.

But the agency has told them there are no plans to change the speed on any other part of the road.

In a letter the Highways Agency said the call for a speed reduction on the entire bypass had come after the Maesbury Road junction traffic order was processed.

The letter said therefore 'it is not possible to consider an extended speed limit or reconsult with the police without repeating the order process'.

The letter added: "The decisions made to establish the current extents of the 50mph speed limit originated from concerns raised by Shropshire Council regarding collisions in the region of the Maesbury junction."

"Following a review it was agreed that a 50mph speed limit should be considered."

"There were 14 recorded collisions over this distance, 13 of which had speed/failing to judge vehicle speed as a contributory factor and a reasonably reduced speed limit was therefore considered an appropriate measure to take."

"Therefore a 50mph speed limit was investigated for the A483 covering the length of the street lit section around the Maesbury junction, a distance of approximately one kilometre."

"He has left me with a fantastic new team to work with who, I know, share my commitment to strengthening and broadening the reach of Oswestry in both the local community and beyond."

"I see the chamber of commerce very much as a two-way street."

"It serves not only to plan and present the voice of the business community to the wider area but also provides a platform for organisations to present their thoughts, views and plans to an informed, engaged and forward thinking body of people."

Appointments

The chamber held its annual meeting this week where other appointments were also made for the committee.

The new vice chairman is Paul Wiseman of Paul Wiseman Investigations.

The secretary is Fiona Barnes of Moghill Web Services and Louise Hudson of Hudson LM is the treasurer.

Committee members are Edward Arran of Be Brilliant, Jools Payne of Jools Payne Partnership, John Waine from Best of Oswestry, Gemma Syrett-Judd of Honey-suckle Wholefoods, Martin Anderson of Martin Anderson Consulting and Rachel Edwards from REplayit.

During the meeting, which took place at the Wynnstey Hotel members also reviewed the past year and David Coull, Chief Executive of Coverage Care Services, was the guest speaker.

He shared an overview of the range of facilities that will be made available to both residents and the wider community of Oswestry at the New Fairholme premises opening soon in Shrewsbury Road.

Club's oldest golfer is hailed



Roy Holmes, 90, still playing golf at Llanymynech Golf Club, pictured receiving an award from club secretary Howard Jones. Picture: Peter Flemmich

LLANYMYNECH'S oldest golfer was celebrating his 90th birthday with his usual two rounds this week.

Former RAF man Roy Holmes has been a member at Llanymynech since 1985 and the club's oldest playing member was out on the course again despite bitterly cold winds.

The Meifod man turned 90 on April 3 and on Tuesday staff and members from the club presented him with a plaque for being the most active senior walking member, and long may it continue."

Mr Holmes said: "I have been playing golf for about 85 years. I like golf for the fresh air and the friendship."

"I used to be in the RAF and I have played on courses all over the world including Australia and Ireland."

old who walks it twice a week. He likes to play a casual game.

"It is nice to see his face here. He is a lovely guy and has so many stories."

Mr Jones said he has recently renewed his annual membership to the club.

He said: "We have got him a little plaque for him and a frame to commemorate him being the most active senior walking member, and long may it continue."

Mr Holmes said: "I have been playing golf for about 85 years. I like golf for the fresh air and the friendship."

NEWS
in briefAdvice session
for businesses

BUSINESSES looking to improve their sales have the chance to attend a free sales surgery at The Royal Oak Hotel in Welshpool.

The surgery on Wednesday, April 24, will be aimed at smaller businesses in the morning session and larger businesses in the afternoon and is being organised by local sales outsourcing company R2m Ltd.

Businesses are invited to go along to understand how to implement proven sales actions into their business, hear about successful practical sales tactics and create action plans to take charge of their own sales growth.

For further details please visit www.r2m-ltd.co.uk/events/

To book a place on the course please e-mail your details to info@r2mconsultancy.co.uk or contact Deborah or David on 0800 6124696.

Drink-drive trial
for woman, 24

A WOMAN from Llyn-clys is accused of driving while more than three times the drink-drive limit.

Kelly Evans, 24, of Bryn Melin, Llyn-clys, denies driving a black Citroen Saxo in Waterfall Street, Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant, on January 19 while over the drink drive limit.

It is alleged that she gave a reading of 112 microgrammes of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath during a police breath test. The legal limit is 35.

A trial was set for 10am on June 4 at Welshpool Magistrates Court during a hearing at the same court on Tuesday.

Evans was not required to attend the hearing.

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NEWS

Shelter plans for office site

PLANS TO change a former office block on an industrial estate into a 20-bedsit homeless shelter will go before planning bosses today, Thursday.

Powys County Council is expected to refuse permission for Walker Sheppard House in Henfaes Lane, Welshpool, to be converted into the residential development due to fears it would provide poor living standards.

The council's planning committee will meet in the town to discuss the application. **by Graham Breeze**

Welshpool Town Council also opposes the plan, saying the area is not suitable for residential use.

Applicant Mark Sheppard of Oswestry says in the application that the bedsits would be used to help single people who may be homeless or living in bed and breakfasts.

Louise Ruggeri, of Powys County Council's planning department, says in her report: "The application form states that the proposed use is that of residential institutions although the design and access statement suggests that 'the units are designed to be a step on the ladder to finding long-term homes'."

Clarified

"Also that the applicants have made inquiries with the housing department which has identified a need for accommodation for single persons who may be homeless or in bed and breakfast accommodation."

"Given the ambiguity of the intended use, it has been clarified with the agent who has confirmed that the proposed use is that of a homeless shelter," she added.

"The site is located within the heart of a predominantly industrial area. It is acknowledged that a neighbouring property, Henfaes House, is within residential use, however it is considered that the area surrounding the development site is characterised by heavy industrial uses."

The meeting was being held at 10am at Neuadd Maldwyn, Severn Road, Welshpool.

Tribute paid to ex-member of male choir

THE RHOS Orpheus Male Voice Choir is giving a concert at Carreg Llwyd Church, Oswestry, at 7.30pm on Saturday, April 27, as a tribute to a former member, Graham Bebb of Morda.

Graham, who was a member of the choir for about three years, died in January last year at the age of 57. Richard Huxley, concert secretary for the Orpheus, said: "The choir welcomes this opportunity to pay tribute to Graham with this concert. Although a member for only a short time, he played a full part in all the choir activities and concerts and is missed by all."

Tickets are £6 with proceeds going to Hope House Children's Hospice. They are available from Carreg Llwyd Church on 01691 655546, Derek Buckle on 01691 658118 or Richard Huxley on 01244 570201.

Pair prepare for swim challenge



Chloe Wilson and family friend Tanya Wilson have agreed to join the Marie Curie Swimathon and are cooking up fundraising plans.

TWO TALENTED swimmers taking part in a five kilometre challenge in Shropshire are cooking up plans to raise cash for the charity behind the event.

Chloe Wilson, 11, and family friend Tanya Wilson, 34, both from the Oswestry area, have agreed to join the Marie Curie Swimathon, a tough five kilometre event taking place at Oswestry Leisure Centre on April 18.

The pair will both have to swim 200 lengths of the 25 metre pool and have pledged to raise funds for Marie Curie.

But, rather than ask for sponsorship, they are instead holding a fundraising cake stall on Oswestry's market on the Bailey Head on Saturday from 9am until 1pm.

Tanya said the stall had been donated to the cause thanks to markets manager, David Clough.

"As we aren't asking people for spon-

sorship for the event, we are hoping people will come along and visit our stall and buy some of our delicious cakes, all home made. They would be helping us to reach our combined target of £200.

"We will also be holding a raffle on the day with the prize - a very large cupcake - donated by Boxes of Fun."

Chloe said: "I love swimming and was looking to do a challenging distance and combine it with raising money for a charity."

"I decided to enter the Marie Curie Swimathon and asked Tanya, as she is a close family friend and also loves swimming, to swim it with me."

"We are both going to be working hard training for the 200 lengths and baking cakes for the day."

"I hope lots of people come and visit our stall on Saturday and help us raise lots of money."

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It is worth noting that under new legislation starting April 1st 2013, no separation/divorce cases can be heard in Court unless they have been assessed for Mediation, and either Mediation has been deemed unsuitable or has been attempted and was unsuccessful.

Mediation is not a form of relationship counselling; its aim is to help separating couples to work things out together in respect of how to end their relationship and resolve issues surrounding children and/or finances. Mediation is also voluntary and both parties must agree to follow it. There are big advantages to using Mediation to resolve the issues surrounding separation, in particular its cost-effectiveness due to it primarily only involving one Solicitor. It is still possible when going through Mediation, however, for the separating couple to each use a lawyer to take advice during the process and make sure their Agreements are fair and legally binding.

Mediation is carried out with the help of a trained, impartial mediator. As well as its cost-effectiveness it saves time and can reduce levels of hostility, a prime consideration where children are involved.

Further information relating to this question is available from Caroline Gregg, a Trainee Legal Executive with GHP Legal. For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194 or visit www.ghplegal.co.uk. For Personal Injury, Employment and Family matters we offer a FREE legal diagnostic clinic every Wednesday 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal holds the Law Society Lexcel Quality Mark Accreditation



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NEWS

01691 668094

Drink-driver's ten to fifteen minutes of utter madness

A YOUNG drink-driver's car took off on a humpbacked bridge as he tried to shake off police.

Matthew David Pierce reached speeds of 80mph along country lanes and his actions were described in court by his defence barrister Steven Scully as "10 to 15 minutes of complete and utter madness".

Pierce, 28, a self employed heating engineer, went through red traffic lights and even "took off" on a humped back bridge.

But following a chase in the Llandrinio and Four Crosses area he stopped and told police "I give up."

by Graham Breeze

Firefighter has heart attack on his way to call

A FIREFIGHTER is recovering in hospital after suffering a heart attack while on his way to answer a call.

Retained firefighter Michael Mounsey collapsed inside Oswestry Fire Station as he was preparing to turn out to a chimney fire.

But within four hours of his collapse, the 36-year-old was sitting up in bed after an operation to remove a blood clot from his heart.

Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service said he was saved thanks to the quick actions of his colleagues during the incident which happened on April 2.

They gave him oxygen at the scene, while a paramedic administered morphine and a surgeon operated within a short time of his arrival by ambulance at Stafford Hospital's cardiology unit.

Mold Crown Court heard how he had five pints at his local pub, could not get a taxi, and took a chance and drove his works Peugeot van home.

But he panicked when he saw the police because his business and his employees relied on him having a driving licence.

He sped off and failed to stop for police.

Suspended

Pierce, of Orchard Croft, Llandrinio, who had never been in trouble before, admitted dangerous driving on the A483 and the B4393 at 2 a.m. on January 11, and driving with 57 microgrammes of alcohol in his breath, compared to the legal limit of 35.

He was banned from driving for two and a half years and ordered to take an extended re-test.

Judge Dafydd Hughes imposed a 52-week prison sentence, suspended for two years, and sent him on 10 sessions of a "vehicle crime manual" course run by the local probation service.

Pierce was ordered to pay £440 in costs.

The judge said that he would not impose unpaid work or a curfew because he said that the driving ban meant that enough of a burden would be placed on the defendant's partner who would now have to help to drive him about.

The graphic account given of his driving that night was frightening, the judge said.

Artist meets library visitors



Jood Gough in the library with some of her work. Picture Andy Cunningham

OSWESTRY library hosted its first 'Meet the Artist' event on Saturday when local artist, Jood Gough from Oswestry, was at the library talking to visitors about her artwork and the workshop that she will be running.

Jood is a member of Borderland

Visual Arts and they hold regular displays in the library.

She will be hosting a life-drawing class at the library in Oswestry on April 27 from 10am until 3pm. To book a place on the course contact the library on (01691) 677388.

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NEWS

01691 668094

Firms are urged to increase recycling

BUSINESSES in Mid Wales are being encouraged to take advantage of trade recycling collections which will save them money while helping boost recycling rates.

Powys County Council said it has again frozen the prices for recycling bags and bins this year, whereas the price for residual trade waste has had to be increased by 25 per cent to take account of the increasing cost of disposal including the escalating landfill tax.

The price of a trade recycling permit has also been kept at £100 in order to encourage businesses to drop off recyclable waste at one of the six Household Waste and Recycling Centres in Powys, which allows them to recycle a wider range of materials than the kerbside service.

Also, for £35 per year businesses can purchase a permit to recycle waste at community recycling sites, such as supermarket and village hall car parks.

Councillor Barry Thomas, cabinet member for recycling and waste, said: "We are committed to recycling as much of the county's waste as possible, and as the new household service is taking shape across the county, businesses are our next target."

"We feel that the options available give traders plenty of opportunities to recycle."

More than 250 drinkers raise glasses to ale festival success

by Sue Austin

OSWESTRY'S fifth real ale festival was hailed a success after more than 250 people enjoyed a weekend of sampling some of the best brews around.

Local breweries teamed up with the Lions Club of Oswestry for the town's fifth real ale festival at the Memorial Hall on Smithfield Street.

There were more than 20 casks of real ale, on tap in the hall, all supplied by local breweries for the visitors.

The festival ran from Friday evening until Sunday afternoon.

As well as real ale, visitors could also quaff cider and wine or soft drink alternatives as well as enjoy refreshments.

There was also musical entertainment during the weekend.

Profit

Spokesman Clive Humphries said that it was too early to say how much the event had made.

"We are happy that we will be in profit but as yet we do not know how much we will have raised."

"We believe there were as many if not more people as last year, when 250 people visited the festival."

"The event has been running for five years and we know that there have been people who have attended each festival. And we always get newcomers as well."

He said the festival was going from strength to strength each year and was



Lilian Packer and Mair Bowen help out with refreshments at the real ale festival. Pictures: Andy Cunningham

attracting more people. All the ales were supplied by local breweries which included the Stonehouse Brewery from Oswestry.

The brewery played a major role in sourcing the beers, providing specialist equipment and support to the event. Shropshire branch of Campaign for Real Ale also gave its support to the festival.

Those taking part in the event were given an engraved, commemorative glass tankard to keep.

Mr Humphries said all profits will go toward the Lions' charity work.

"Lion's Clubs like Oswestry are well known throughout the world for the enormous contributions they make to good causes, supporting individuals in need and local charities as well as coming to the help of those struck by national and other disasters."

"Every penny of profit arising from our real ale festival will contribute towards helping with this work."



Pouring another glass is Clive Humphries from Oswestry Lions.



Taylor Clements helps out with the beer kegs.

Plea for help by support charity

MORE volunteers are desperately needed in Shropshire by an independent charity that helps victims of crime in the county, the organisation's manager said.

Victim Support Shropshire is looking to sign up more helpers to visit and support victims of crime in the community across Shropshire.

Jean Garner, senior service delivery manager for Shropshire, said the independent charity is particularly stretched in the Oswestry, Craven Arms, Ludlow and Market Drayton areas of the county.

"We really would welcome more people to come and join us to make a positive difference for people - for however long and in whatever way they can help," she said.

"In return they will get excellent training and support and join a friendly and varied team of people."

The charity receives referrals from the police, with volunteers involved in giving practical advice, information and emotional support to victims of all crimes and to witnesses at Shrewsbury Crown Court and Shrewsbury and Telford Magistrates Courts.

For more information or to apply call Victim Support on (01743) 362812 or email jackie.kelly@victimsupport.org.uk

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NEWS

01691 668094

41 Club's busy year of events recalled

ELLESMERE & District 41 Club recently held their annual meeting at the Boathouse when 27 members attended.

Outgoing Chairman David Webster gave a report on his year in office which included visits to Whittington Castle, Manor House Stables, Wrexham Lager, and a talk on their trek across Mongolia by Owen and Rose Patterson.

There was also a bowls night, skittles night and golf competition.

He finished his report by thanking the members for their support during his year in office.

During the meeting the new chairman Nigel Williams was appointed who promised the members another year filled with varied events and meetings.

Talk on herbs

OSWESTRY Garden Society will hold its first meeting at its new venue of Cornerstone Baptist Church on Lower Brook Street on April 15 at 7.30pm.

The speaker will be Anne Harrison, who will talk on 'Growing and using Herbs'.

Visitors are welcome, for further details, phone (01691) 659773.

Developer hoping to amend livestock site revamp plans

DEVELOPERS behind the controversial £45 million regeneration of Oswestry's Smithfield livestock site have applied for permission to amend the plans.

Outline permission was given in July 2011 to build a supermarket, cinema, restaurants and offices on the site, despite worries by campaigners that the edge of town location would destroy Oswestry's small independent traders.

Approval was also given for the regeneration of the livestock market. It was later announced that Morrisons would operate the new supermarket and McDonald's and Frankie and Benny's restaurants would also open on the Shrewsbury Road site.

by Graham Breeze

New courses on offer at college

PEOPLE wanting to try something new are being urged to sign up for courses at a college in Mid Wales.

Coleg Powys in Newtown will be running eight week courses such as drawing and painting, contemporary dance, sign language.

Sophia Pert, Coleg Powys spokeswoman, said: "Courses range from eight week sessions in which you can learn and develop new skills in drawing and painting, contemporary dance, sign language and Sage Foundation. Or perhaps people have been inspired with the rise in popularity of baking skills and would like to take part in artisan bakery two-day workshops.

"There is a wealth of new and exciting activities to enhance your current skills and knowledge and to provide you with entirely new talents. Courses range from one-off workshops to eight week sessions and costs range from £15 upwards."

Call 0845 408 6300.

Developer Optimisation Developments Ltd has now lodged a planning application to make changes to the development.

Among the changes requested include the moving of the main access 10 metres further along Shrewsbury Road, an adjustment to the internal layout of the access to the cattle market site and Park and Ride site and an adjustment to the ground floor of the proposed supermarket.

Footprint

A statement from the firm's planning agents Peacock and Smith says the changes would not alter the actual footprint of the new supermarket but the store 'footprint' would be amended slightly to 'better suit the Morrisons format'. The change would also help improve safety for visitors to the market and those using the Park and Ride, the developers said.

The developers said the application to vary certain conditions on the original outline planning approval would allow for 'minor material amendments'.

The statement says: "This application seeks permission to vary three conditions which will result in minor material amendments to the approved scheme. The only change to siting not related to highways changes is the siting of the foodstore."

Shropshire Council aims to make a decision by June 21.

Ladies stepping out for a good cause

THESE ladies are putting their best foot forward for a good cause – and are now calling on women across the county to get their pyjamas on for a fundraiser for Shropshire's Hope House Children's Hospice.

The hospice, based at Morda near Oswestry, has launched its first Midnight Pyjama Walk to raise money to help local terminally ill children and their families.

The event will take place on the night of June 15, starting from the hospice gardens in Morda.

Vanessa Thomas, hospice fundraising manager said: "We are appealing for 250 ladies to pull on their PJs and come and take part."

"We have a lovely marquee in the hospice gardens to start from and plan to decorate it with lanterns and glittering lights to shine on the warm up."

She added: "Everyone taking part will be given an illuminated starry headset to wear along the four-mile route into Oswestry and home again for refreshments and bacon butties."

It costs £15 to register and groups of five or more walkers can sign up together at a discounted price of just £12 each.

Each entrant is also asked to raise sponsorship to help the hospice, with anyone raising over £100



Ready for the off are Kerry Ferguson, Louise Corfield, Lynsey Kilvert, the Hope House Hound, Hannah Griffiths, Vanessa Thomas and Chloe Evans.

going into a raffle to win a fabulous prize. Mrs Thomas said: "Many of the families who use Hope House become used to sleepless nights nursing their children – we are appealing to people to give up just one night's sleep and show their support for our families."

"Because we are starting at the hospice we have just 250 places available and by June we are sure that the sun

will be shining and that there will be plenty of banter and camaraderie to keep us all warm."

Men will also be needed on the night to help with marshalling along the route.

People can sign up for the walk online at www.hopehouse.org.uk or call the fundraising office for a registration form on (01691) 671671.

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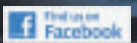
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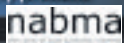
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Repulsed by airing of abuse after ex-PM's death

NEVER in my lifetime have I witnessed such an outpouring of different emotions following the death this week of former Prime Minister Baroness Thatcher.

Journalists across the world have been reaching for their dictionaries to find superlatives in their attempts to sum up the life and legacy of probably the country's most controversial leader ever – and there have been more than a few.

Everyone has their own opinion about a woman who without doubt changed the British way of life forever.

But I have also been repulsed by the column inches and airtime given to those spouting so much hatred and abuse. Hard to believe that one woman could generate so much malice so many years after she disappeared from public office.

The hurt caused by some of the actions of the 'Iron Lady' is clearly felt by generations and seems to have outweighed the support,

**BREEZE
ABOUT
TOWN**

with Graham Breeze



despite the fact that her actions created countless business and lifestyle opportunities for so many.

It's a shame that none of today's politicians possess a fraction of the personality and strength of the country's first female leader who broke down the idea of genders leading to a natural set of roles.

She was the ultimate feminine icon and regardless of political beliefs does not deserve to be so publically vilified in such an ugly manner.

Whether her funeral should be with full

military honours and such a costly affair is a different matter.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
NEXT month will see Shropshire going to the polls for county and town elections and in Oswestry will see the departure of several leading figures who are choosing, for one reason another, to stand down from public office.

Not seeking re-election on the Town Council are Val Schofield, Heather Bickerton, Owen Jones and Moira Benyon. Councillor Steve Haworth has also had to stand down because of boundary changes. Long serving councillor Bill Benyon is also giving up his county council seat.

Which means it's going to be a time of change in Oswestry and with the BNP joining in the hunt for seats we can be sure of some lively debate in the run in.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
ROY Holmes is proving just how great the game of golf can be – at the age of 90.

This week Roy's colleagues at Llanymynech Golf Club recognised the fact that the veteran still manages to walk the course twice a week and still swing the club to a competitive standard.

His actions prove what a great sport golf is, proving that regardless of age, sex or ability anyone can take part.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
I've been attracting a bit of celebrity status following my remarks in last week's column, criticising an ITV documentary which said that Welshpool's town centre traders were thriving.

A Saturday morning stroll up Broad Street took a lot longer than usual with people anxious to pat me on the back for my outspoken view that the town clerk might not have appreciated the trading conditions when talking to the TV crew.

But don't worry Mr Robinson I'm resisting the call to stand at the next town council elections.

Trailblazer Diana takes up post as High Sheriff

by Shirley Tart

THE FIRST female pupil at Ellesmere College has become only the sixth woman to take on the office of Shropshire's High Sheriff.

What's more, trailblazer Diana Flint will remember who presented her clutch of awards at the end of her Lower sixth year and who said how good it was to see 'a girl beating the boys'.

It was the late Margaret Thatcher, then Secretary of State for Education and Science, who was to win her own place in history as our first woman Prime Minister.

Diana, who lives with barrister husband Charles near Ellesmere, took over the mantle last Friday from Oswestry's John Abram, who has held the office for the past year.

Retired

The new incumbent has come a long way from Kenya, where she was born. Her father, Major Robert Topham, was in the Army serving with the Duke of Edinburgh's Wiltshire Regiment and was seconded to the King's African Rifles during the 1950s Mau Mau campaigns.

Diana remembers those early childhood days but was only five when her father retired and came to Shropshire to take up farming with wife Jean and children, Robin, Diana and Angela.

They first lived at New Marton Hall, between Oswestry and Ellesmere, before moving some years later to a larger family farm estate just outside Ellesmere.

Colonel John Flint, his wife Anne and their children came into the county in 1966 and the two families got to know each other. Diana and Charles Flint hit it off so well that they were eventually married.

She says of her parents: "They worked really hard to get the house on its feet again – and did so just in time for our wedding in 1978."



High Sheriff Diana Flint and her husband Charles from near Ellesmere.

Her father died in 1995 and two years later, she and Charles moved into the family home and between them, manage farm and land.

For the first 19 years of their marriage, the couple lived in London and Charles, a QC and a Bencher in the Middle Temple, still commutes to the capital.

Diana was a picture researcher with art publisher Thames & Hudson. Art has always been a major passion for her.

She graduated from Reading University with a BA (Hons) in Italian, a course which included the history of Italian art. More recently, Diana has been chairman of the Shropshire Art Fund committee, though she has stepped down to take on her new role.

The 100-year-old Art Fund, the biggest independent art charity in the country, donates £5 million each year to museums and galleries across the UK to buy art for

their collections and has contributed to more than 200 works in Shropshire Museum and many in the Ironbridge Gorge Museum complex.

She said: "In my year as High Sheriff, I really want to put the spotlight on the Art Fund. There are 650 members in the county and we get a regular 200 at lectures or interested in joining outings."

Support

"Art is important nationally but it is also important to highlight what there is to see around Shropshire and I'm going to try and highlight the museums and galleries rather more."

"The other thing I want to do is support volunteering, especially the smaller groups who all do such a terrific job."

For a woman especially, the 'uniform' of High Sheriff is always a bit special and each of our ladies has been turned out splendidly



At the installation ceremony at Shrewsbury Castle are, from left, Rev John Vernon, Hon Mr Justice David Richards, new High Sheriff Diana Flint, outgoing High Sheriff John Abram, and Under Sheriff Peter Stewart.

when on duty. Diana bought the dark green velvet for her official livery in New York, and borrowed the buttons of office from a previous sheriff and friend.

She was officially installed at a Shrewsbury Castle ceremony on Friday, April 5, before family and officials – including her chaplain Rev John Vernon – with husband Charles at her side.

He is a great support to Diana, she says. "He really is so good and will be with me whenever he can," she said.

Their architect son William – who with wife Pam currently lives in Cape Town, South Africa near to Pam's family – and daughter Julia – who lives in London with husband John, a fellow doctor – are rightly proud of their mother and her new role for the county.

And so the ancient position is handed on to another county servant and into another pair of safe hands.

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LETTERS & NEWS

It's time owners cleaned up their act

WE who are dog owners are very privileged here in Oswestry to be allowed to walk our dogs on The Oswestry School playing fields.

Why is it therefore that there is a small minority of dog walkers who risk us losing this wonderful facility?

These selfish, thoughtless dog owners are risking the health of the pupils and the public who play on these fields, by not clearing up after their dogs.

It is extremely unpleasant to find dog faeces on one's shoes and wellies.

There are many people who dislike dogs for this reason and it is not the dog's fault, it is totally down to these lazy and uncaring owners.

Bags to clear up after your pooch are readily available at supermarkets and pet shops, so there is no excuse.

May I add that there are notices everywhere asking that Oswestry should be kept tidy and that an £80 fine may be applied for this offence.

Isn't it always the few who spoil things for the majority of responsible dog walkers?

I hope that this letter will also prod dog walkers on the Bryn Hafod playing field to act more responsibly and clean up the mess, because it is exceptionally disgusting there.

BRENDA STANSBIE
Oswestry

Car park has to be sorted

NOT only do I fully concur with the complaint of both David Griffiths and Peter Coxhead about the state of Sainsbury's car park, but they must also consider the consequence of personal injury through trips and falls due to the poor condition of the surface.

I am sure not only the elderly, but the public in general, feel vulnerable and insecure when using this store.

I understand it might mean that parking is limited while work is carried out, but something must be done soon.

BUD WINTER
Oswestry

Scrap one-way traffic system

I WRITE to send very many thanks to you for highlighting the issue of Welshpool town clerk Robert Robinson's flagrant misconceptions in his items on the recent ITV programme (*Breeze About Town*, April 4).

How on earth can he pontificate that there are only three empty shops in the High Street? As you suggested, he should have walked the camera crew along the other main streets, from the Spar in Church Street to the Pola Cinema in Berriew Street.

Everyone would have seen that there are, to date, 10 empty premises.

He may well blame the recession but the vast majority of Welshpudlians

blame the ludicrous one-way system, which was forced upon us.

In questions put to Mr Robinson in a newspaper headlined 'One-way system working, says clerk' he said the developers of the livestock market had paid for the system as part of the planning consent: 'The whole system has been paid for in full by Tesco'.

Was this Tesco's 'carrot' so that planning consent would be granted?

As anyone with a modicum of sense knows three-way traffic lights always result in delays. That's why there are now long delays when waiting at The Cross, so no-one arriving in Welshpool wants to stop to shop, especially now

that Broad Street has become a dual carriageway. And if they do, where's the only free car park? Next to Tesco.

Shoppers who wish to patronise Morrisons in Berriew Street have no end of trouble leaving the car park.

Having lived in Brook Street for four decades I can vouch that the only time there was a backlog of traffic was on bank holiday weekends, so why was there a need for a one-way system and who decided that one was necessary?

Instead of listening to our town clerk it's about time we residents stood up and demanded our traffic system be returned to how it was.

ANGRY WELSHPOOL RESIDENT



This is Bailey Street, Oswestry, in a postcard view which is undated but looks as if it might be the mid to late 1950s. This postcard comes from the huge collection of Shropshire postcard collector Ray Farlow.

Why can't authorities call back?

DURING the last fall of snow, my husband contacted the council to ask if it was possible to have a grit bin put in our road - St James Close, Oswestry - as there are several elderly and disabled residents and the road was very perilous.

He was told someone would ring him to advise if it would be possible.

As usual when we contact the council, no reply was received.

Low and behold, we were virtually snowed in.

We still have no grit bin and as many able-bodied residents as possible have done their best to clear some of the road.

Why, oh why, can the council not return calls to sensible requests?

L YERBURY
Oswestry

LETTERS to the Editor

POST

Readers' Letters,
Oswestry Chronicle,
Kelley, Telford TF1 5HU

FAX

01952
254605

E-MAIL

letters@oswestry
chronicle.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters

Government needs to rethink childcare

I THINK we must live in a backward country when the Government is helping to pay childcare fees so mothers can go to work.

It's a basic natural instinct for a mother to love and care for her child. It must hurt to hand over the baby she has carried and borne to a stranger to care for, even for a short time.

It also hurts the child. It must make them feel fearful and insecure.

We have got our priorities upside down when we forgo the precious experience of motherhood for the sake of money. Mothers should be paid to stay at home and nurture their own children at least until they go to school.

RON JONES
Oswestry

Charity in launch of new brand

MANY of your readers regularly support our charity, the Cystic Fibrosis Trust, so I knew they would be interested to hear that we have just relaunched ourselves with an exciting new brand.

Readers can go online to www.cysticfibrosis.org.uk to see our new video.

Our new brand is much more action-orientated.

Cystic fibrosis is chronically misunderstood, kills thousands worldwide and is carried unknowingly in the genes of millions. It affects around 10,000 people in the UK - 617 of these patients are in the West Midlands.

We are hugely grateful for all the readers who have supported us over the years and look forward to their continued support.

MARTINE GRAINGER
Fundraising Manager
West Midlands

We must support need for medicine

THE UK'S meningitis charities have joined forces and written to Prime Minister David Cameron.

In 2011, Mr Cameron said that the idea of children dying from preventable diseases is unthinkable and pledged to save lives in the developing world by ensuring vaccine availability.

Yet UK children are still exposed to a deadly disease which can kill them in hours or leave them severely disabled. This is Meningitis B, the most common form of meningitis in the UK. It kills more children under five than any other infection.

Thankfully, help is in sight. In January, a new Meningitis B vaccine - Bexsero® - received a licence from the European Commission. It is the first Meningitis B vaccine licensed for use in the UK and can save thousands of lives.

Over the next few weeks, the UK Government is considering whether to introduce this vaccine into the routine childhood immunisation schedule.

We are determined to ensure this lifesaving vaccine is introduced as soon as possible, and the support of your readers is crucial.

On average, 1,870 cases of Meningitis B occur in the UK every year. One in 10 people who contract the disease will die.

We urge everyone to support the need for a Meningitis B vaccine.

CHRIS HEAD
CEO, Meningitis
Research Foundation

Register to have a vote

ANYONE planning to have their say at the local elections in Shropshire on Thursday, May 2, has only a few days left to register to vote.

Please may I encourage residents not to leave it too late the deadline is Wednesday, April 17.

Anyone who has moved house recently needs to make sure they register with their new address.

Please call my team on 0345 678 9015 or print a form off from the website aboutmyvote.co.uk without delay.

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WELSHPOOL

01691 668094

Museum launches show and also quiz

WELSHPOOL'S Powysland Museum has launched its new exhibition along with a fun quiz for both children and adults.

The quiz 'Guess The Objects' will run alongside the new exhibition until June 12.

The new exhibition presents 10 modern artifacts from the museum's collections, not all of which are that easy to identify.

Visitors are invited to work out and/or guess what the items are and what they were used for. An answer sheet is available and a winner will be drawn when the exhibition finishes in June.

Most of the items on display are generic with no or little connection to the area or to local people and the question is: Do they still belong in Powysland Museum?

Therefore the exhibition also asks visitors to fill out a short questionnaire relating to future collecting.

The results of the survey will help not just this museum, but museums in Wales form a strategy for the scope and variety of contemporary collections for the benefit of future visitors.

And as added incentive, there is free admission until April 13.

Council teams up with NT to host summer party fun

A HUGE party will be held in Mid Wales this summer following the success of last year's Queen's Diamond Jubilee party.

Welshpool Town Council has teamed up with the National Trust to hold the garden party at Powis Castle on June 22, featuring stalls, performances and games.

It is hoped the event will be as popular as the garden party held last June to mark the Jubilee which saw more than 2,000 people enjoying picnics on the castle's great lawn.

The event will celebrate Lady Violet Eveline Herbert, Countess of Powis, who ran the castle's gardens from 1911 to her death in 1929.

by Andrew Morris

MP's fury over phone service

USERS of the O2 mobile network are now back on line after a week of having no connection due to a cabling fault, but MP Glyn Davies still plans to ditch the service.

The problem was detected on March 31, but it took O2 a week to fix after admitting the weather hampered access to the fault.

The problem has not gone down well with Mr Davies leading the backlash. "I appear to have my mobile signal back at home and apologise to those who have been unable to reach me over the past week," he said.

"It's too late for O2, when my contract runs out I'm off elsewhere. Like a lot of users, I'm sick of being treated like the past week and being told lies about when it is going to be fixed."

An O2 spokesman said: "Our mast in Welshpool needed replacement cabling and parts that we had to order but unfortunately the adverse weather had an impact on fixing the problem quickly. We'd like to apologise to any of our customers who were affected."

Robert Robinson, town clerk, said: "Powis Castle, together with Welshpool Town Council, is hosting another summer event this year to celebrate Lady Violet, Countess of Powis."

"Welshpool Town Council is organising stalls and family games on the great lawn and would like to extend an invitation to all local community, charity and youth groups to have a stand at the event, giving the organisations a chance to improve awareness of their cause and to raise a few funds."

Preparations

"Stalls can be of varying kinds such as tombola, beat the goalie, guess the name, treasure map and bean bag throw, just to give you a few ideas. Preparations are still in the early stages, but if this is something your group would be interested in being part of, please contact the town clerk's office."

Lady Powis was born in June 1865 and was the wife of George Herbert who succeeded his uncle as Earl of Powis.

She persuaded her husband to entrust the management of the deteriorating gardens at Powis Castle to her. Over the next 18 years, she effectively recreated them into the renowned form that they are in today.

Last year's Jubilee event was a huge success, with stalls and events.

You can contact the town council offices to book a stall by calling (01938) 553142.



Enjoying a 'Grand Day Out' at Powis Castle, from left, Philip Wood, Yvonne Talbot, Rob Robinson and Lynne Robinson from Welshpool in 1940s dress at last year's Jubilee party at the castle.

Offer of grant aid to groups from trust

ORGANISATIONS are being invited to submit an application for grant aid, following the launch of the 2013 round of Welshpool's Burgess Land Trust grants.

The trust is seeking applications for grant aid funding which would benefit the elderly or younger persons in the area of the trust - Welshpool, part of Guilsfield, part of Castle Caereinion and Trewern.

Grants can be for revenue or capital use but cannot be used for staff salaries and must be made to organisations, not individuals. They are normally up to £250.

Applications should be received no later than May 31 and application forms and more details are available from the Town Clerk's Office at Triangle House, Union Street, or through wtccouncil@btinternet.com

NEWS

in brief

Appeal goes out for memorabilia

HISTORY enthusiast Alan Crowe is looking for memorabilia relating to both St Mary's Singers and St Mary's Players, from Welshpool.

Connected to St Mary's Church, Welshpool, the players and singers presented plays and musicals over a number of years. Alan would like to hear from anyone who has photographs, programmes, tickets or other memorabilia, and can be contacted on 07782 166342 or e-mail alan60s@live.com

Recently Mr Crowe published a book on the history of Welshpool Pantomime Society.

Mayor will host a coffee morning

MAYOR of Welshpool, Councillor John Meredith, will be holding a coffee morning in the Corn Exchange at Welshpool Town Hall on April 26.

The event is from 9am until noon with cups of tea or coffee available for just 50p. There will also be a raffle and book sale, with proceeds for the mayor's chosen charities Epilepsy Wales and the Stroke Club.

Crash delays

MOTORISTS faced long delays in the Welshpool area on Saturday after a crash at the Newtown end of the town bypass.

Five people were injured in the two car crash.

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WELSHPOOL

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Dewi's double marathon challenge to aid charity

by Graham Breeze

A WELSHPOOL teacher is hoping to raise thousands of pounds for an international charity – by completing not one but two marathons this year.

Dewi Owen, 40, a teacher at Newtown High School is in training for this month's London Marathon and then hopes to compete in November's New York Marathon.

Mr Owen, from Leighton, Welshpool, hopes to raise £2,000 for Save the Children.

A variety of fundraising events are being organised in support of his efforts including a coffee morning which was held at Church House in Welshpool on Saturday.

The father of three said: "Training is going OK although it has been bitterly cold recently which makes it tough. Hopefully I will be ready for London and then stay fit for New York."

"I ran London last year so have some experience and have been training hard."

Connection

"I am keen to raise as much money as I can for Save the Children because I have a family connection to it. My cousin Gareth Owen has worked all over the world with them so I know what they do."

"Save the Children also has a strong historical connection with Shropshire and the borders. Its founder, Eglantyne Jebb, was born in 1876 in Ellesmere, and grew up on her family's estate."

"The Jebbs were a wealthy family who had a strong social conscience and commitment to public service. Today, Save the Children work in more than 120 countries, including the UK. Save the Children are dedicated to saving the lives of children and upholding their rights which Eglantyne Jebb was so passionate about. My target is to raise £2,000 for the charity by running both races."

"I will be continuing my training over the next few months, so please look out for me in and around Welshpool and give me a wave."

People can sponsor Mr Owen either by texting 'dewi73 £5' to 70070 or by visiting the website www.justgiving.com/Dewi-Owen1



Teacher Dewi Owen, of Welshpool, hopes to raise money for Save the Children by completing two marathons this year.

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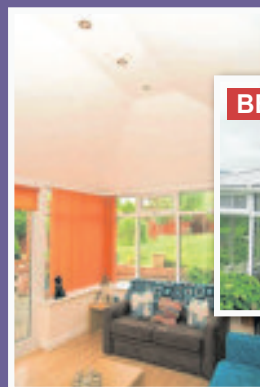
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NEWS

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Council's leader to address concerns

THE LEADER of Powys County Council has agreed to discuss concerns about its future with a group representing town and community councils.

One Voice Wales said it is delighted that Councillor David Jones had agreed to address concerns about redundancies, efficiencies and accountability.

Last month, Powys County Council said it will shed around 200 jobs as it tries to save £30 million over the next three years.

Councillor Derrick Pugh, an executive board member of One Voice Wales, said discussions at a recent meeting of Llanfihangel Community Council, showed members were concerned about the authority's direction.

Councillor Pugh said Councillor Jones had agreed to meet members of One Voice Wales at a meeting on April 17 at Castle Caereinion Community Centre at 7pm.

Last month, the council said in addition to the redundancies it was putting council tax for the coming year up by 2.75 per cent - £25.75 a year on a band D property, taking the yearly bill to £962.11.

Councillors said they hoped the jobs could be shed through retirements and voluntary redundancies. The job losses are expected to save £4.3 million.

Musical celebration marks theatre company's 50 years

by Graham Breeze

A THEATRE company is marking 50 years of performing with a special musical celebration - with the show aptly named 'Gold'.

Oswestry Musical Theatre Company has been entertaining the town's residents for generations, and three members of its first ever cast are still involved in the group today.

The group dates back to the 1920s when the Operatic Society flourished, performing at the King's Theatre and the Victoria Rooms.

In the spring of 1962, a suggestion was made in a local newspaper that the society should be revived, and in March 1963 the Oswestry and District Amateur Operatic Society was reborn.

HMS Pinafore was presented to an enthusiastic audience in January 1964. From that point the company has produced 73 shows.

Acclaimed

Group member Phil Box said: "Over the next 30 years the society continued to produce a string of highly acclaimed shows such as *The Mikado*, *The Yeomen of the Guard*, *The Pirates of Penzance* and many more. In 1990, the company performed *Mr Gilbert & Mr Sullivan* written by television personality and BBC newsreader Richard Baker.

"In this show the cast were joined in the performance by Richard Baker himself.

"During the 1980s and 1990s the company started to perform more and more musicals rather than operettas, so the name was changed to Oswestry Musical Theatre Company.

"This year's show *Gold* is a celebration of those first 50 years and features numbers from the first show *The Mikado* right up to *The Sound of Music*."

The show is being staged in the Marches School Theatre in Oswestry until Saturday and tickets are available on the door and from Music Makers, 5 Old Chapel Court, Oswestry. Doors open at 7pm.



Still on song: Three members of the original cast of *HMS Pinafore*, from left, Carol Lloyd, Hilton Holmes and Mary Holmes.



Theatre company members rehearse for their current show, *Gold*.



The cast of the original Oswestry and District Amateur Operatic Society performs the operetta *HMS Pinafore* in 1964

MP backs bands to get MPs rocking

TWO MID Wales music acts are being championed by Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies in a parliamentary competition that will see the winner working with industry professionals.

Welshpool-based String the Marionettes and Sam Gomm, from Llanfair Caereinion, have been nominated by Mr Davies in the The Rock the House competition. The prize for the winning act includes equipment and master classes from industry specialists.

The competition's patrons include Brian May and Alice Cooper.

Mr Davies said: "The Rock the House competition is a fantastic opportunity for young musicians looking to make a career in music.

"It can create opportunities to perform in some of the most prestigious venues in the world, to gain experience from industry pioneers, and the chance to win new instruments."

£13m for roads

POWYS County Council is to invest £13 million in its roads over the next three years.

John Evans, council spokesman, said: "The money will be invested in resurfacing, repairs and bridge works over the three-year period."

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NEWS

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NEWS

in brief

**Society hears of
workhouse story**

THE POOR living conditions of inmates of a Victorian workhouse near the Shropshire/Welsh border was the topic of the first full meeting of a relaunched community group.

The Llanfyllin and District Civic Society was relaunched last month as the Llanfyllin Society with about 50 people at its inaugural meeting.

They enjoyed viewing a newly discovered collection of Edwardian lantern slides featuring the town.

The topic for yesterday's meeting of the society was life at Llanfyllin's Dolydd Workhouse.

**Concert organist
to play in town**

INTERNATIONAL concert organist Phil Brown will be performing at a charity event in Oswestry later this month.

The musician will play at the Marches School on April 21 at 3pm.

Proceeds will go towards the British Heart Foundation and the event has been organised by well-known Oswestry fundraiser Betty Bromley.

Tickets are available for £7 from Mrs Bromley on (01691) 653493.

Spring fair date

THE Oswestry branch of the Macmillan Cancer Support Group holds a spring fair on Saturday at the Memorial Hall in Oswestry from 10am.

Graham's marathon quest after shedding five stones

by Graham Breeze



Graham Hinton.

A KEEP fit fanatic who has shed five stones in three years through running and changing his eating habits is preparing for his toughest challenge yet – the London Marathon.

Graham Hinton, 31, of Gobowen, could hardly run 100 metres three years ago.

But after training hard, revising his diet and running in Shropshire 10 kilometre races Mr Hinton will be taking on the London Marathon.

Mr Hinton said he had always struggled with his weight even as an active teenager.

A plumber by trade, he said: "I was working away all week and back at weekends so that meant I was eating out every night having to buy sandwiches and ready meals for lunch.

So he changed his job and joined his local gym at which point his weight was 20 stone.

Mr Hinton said staff at the Lion Quays gym near Oswestry helped him in his weight battle and he was also encouraged to take a close look at his diet. He was eating far too much bread, cheese, pasta and potatoes.

"Once I sorted my eating out the weight dropped off quicker than it had done before, but I was doing lots of exercise as well at this point going to the gym three to four times a week."

When friend Chris Emery asked him to be best man for his wedding they both decided to run the London Marathon in aid of the Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital Bone Tumour Appeal and need to raise £2,000 each.

Stan's Superstore in St Martins donated £250 to Mr Hinton's fund.

People can sponsor him by visiting www.justgiving.com/Graham-Hinton3 or text BURG50 to 70070 and pledge up to £10.

Students in 10p challenge



Students, from left, Ben Smith, Kelsey Pritchard and Emily Ball with some of the 10p pieces collected

STUDENTS at an Oswestry high school have been busy collecting 10p coins in a challenge to improve healthcare in Haiti.

The humanities department at The Marches School is running the '10p Challenge' house competition for the Haiti Hospital Appeal. Students are being asked to collect as many 10p pieces as possible and the house with the longest overall line of 10ps will be crowned the winner. More than £250 has already been raised.

All 10p pieces collected will be donated to the Haiti Hospital Appeal, a charity working with the local community to provide essen-

tial healthcare to people who may not otherwise be able to access it.

The charity is currently raising money to build a hospital in Haiti.

Georgina Walker, geography teacher at the school, said: "This is an innovative fundraising idea which has really helped students to realise that a donation as small as 10p can have a big impact when everyone gets involved and supports the campaign."

A representative from the charity will be visiting the school to talk to students about their forthcoming projects and collect the donation from The Marches School.

Jobs hope in carpet business shake-up

SIX jobs are set to be created with the opening of a carpet business in Oswestry.

A planning application has been lodged with Shropshire Council to open the business at Oswestry Trade Park on the Maes-y-Clawdd industrial estate.

Shropshire Carpets of Shrewsbury wants to open the new outlet by changing the use of a unit on the estate which was last used for storage and distribution.

The firm wants to use the unit for part showroom and part retail.

Papers submitted to Shropshire Council in support of the bid say it would create four full-time and two part-time jobs in Oswestry.

The papers say the firm wants to replicate its premises layout in Shrewsbury for a carpet showroom.

Oswestry Trade Park is the base for several businesses including Screwfix, Skyjack and Crazy Knights children's play barn.

The carpet firm's application was discussed by members of Oswestry Town Council at a planning meeting on Wednesday and the councillors welcomed the jobs boost to the town.

Shropshire Council will make the final decision on whether planning approval is given.

The unitary authority hopes to determine the bid by May 3.

Advertisement Feature

A CHORISTER FOR A DAY A VOICE FOR LIFE

A local choirmaster has gone on record as saying that he does not think that training voices is always a good idea. Mike Donkin, Director of Music at St. Oswald's Parish Church in Oswestry says that the forced development of children's voices, by putting them through the sort of vocal training that an adult would undergo, can often do more harm than good. Children and teenagers are still developing muscles and bones, and such so called training can put strain and stress upon a young voice and can cause damage which will have a lasting effect.

"The rise in reality shows such as X Factor has encouraged more people to want to sing, but" says Mike "subjecting them to an unnatural regime, over development of young muscles and imposing false vibrato does no good whatever and will not produce a voice which will last the singer through his or her life."

He is not against the natural development of the voice and advocates the Royal School of Church Music's Voice for Life scheme as an excellent method of carefully developing a child's voice. He says "The Royal School of Church Music understands the need to nurture young voices and has many years of experience in the natural development of the voice which is why this scheme is so good."

"If you want proof of the value of the training come along and hear our choristers at St. Oswald's."

Children and teenagers need to be taught how to use their bodies to produce a high quality natural sound and this is done through good posture, breath control and basic voice production, while also providing a grounding in musical skills.

The scheme has five levels, White, Light Blue, Dark Blue, Red, and Yellow each of which has the following modules:-

- Using the voice well
- Musical skills and understanding
- Repertoire
- Belonging to the choir
- Choir in context.

Alongside these there are two special modules on

- Boys' changing voices which help boys negotiate the transition from a treble to an adult voice and
- Girls' developing voices which supports girls as they move from the delicate sound which is natural in young girls to a stronger richer sound with a greater contrast in tone and colour.



"It is a measure of the success of the Royal School of Church Music's training that so many famous singers began their careers in a church choir" says Mike, "and I don't just mean the obvious candidates like Aled Jones and Charlotte Church; singers in all fields of music from classical to rock have learnt the basics of singing and voice production in the choir stalls of a parish church."

Mike, with his wife and co-Director of Music, Veronica, are so convinced of the value of the 'Voice for Life' scheme that they are offering young people the chance to try it out for a day. Following the success of a similar venture last year they will be holding an event called 'Be a Chorister for a Day' on Saturday 4th May finishing with the participants singing with the choristers in the Parish Church for the Candlemas service on Sunday morning, 5th May

The day, which will run from 10.30am to 4.30pm. will start with a session for parents and children to hear about the scheme and then move on to sessions on producing a good voice, breath control and learning some music for the Sunday service which will cover the many different styles found in today's church music. Participants will also be given a tour of the church with a trip up the tower and the opportunity to look at the organ.

Lunch and refreshments will be provided through the day and the event will close with a rehearsal with the St. Oswald's Choristers in preparation for the next day.

There is no charge for the day so why not come along a give it a try?

Copies of the programme and application forms will be available in church from January or can be had by contacting Mike & Veronica Donkin on 01691 649933 (an answerphone is available so please leave a message) or via e-mail at mvdonkin@aol.com.

Taste of the continent at weekend market

OOH LA LA, a market town in Shropshire proved it could do the continental at the weekend when it hosted a weekend long speciality market.

Stallholders from across Europe brought their products to Oswestry on Saturday and Sunday.

And the weather brought out the crowds, the sun shining on the town throughout the weekend. There were more than 25 stalls selling goods and delicacies from their home countries including France, Italy, Germany and Belgium.

by Graham Breeze



Jon Nico from Parsin was selling cakes at the market.

Stalls were set up along Bailey Head, Bailey Street and Cross Street selling items such as olives from Greece, tartiflette from the French Alps and Spanish paella and chorizo.

There were also French crepes on offer as well as Dutch toffee waffles, Peruvian clothes, Paris handbags and cheese.

David Clough, retail markets and events manager for Oswestry Town Council, said: "We wanted to have a continental start to the year to start off celebrations before the food festival which takes place in July."

Opportunity

"It would be nice to make Oswestry a destination for good quality for food throughout the year."

Last year the town hosted a one day event after the success of July's food and drink festival.

It was held in September 1.

Mr Clough said: "The European market gave customers a rare opportunity to buy many different produce from a variety of countries all based in just one town."

"The last time we had the continental market it was for one day, this time it was for a complete weekend."

"It was good for the town to have the two day market."



Selling hand made chutneys, pickles and jams is Ian Henry from The Cherry Tree in Conwy, north Wales.



Hoffecard Daniel from Brittany Biscuits.

Pictures: Andy Cunningham



Shoppers enjoy the continental market in Oswestry.

Parish Church of St. Oswald, King & Martyr, Oswestry

A CHORISTER FOR A DAY A VOICE FOR LIFE

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LLANGOLLEN

The Oak Chest is a jewel in the town

Advertisement feature

THE OAK Chest Jewellers has been a fixture in Llangollens' Oak Street since it was founded in 1972 by Les Walker, who gained a splendid reputation for his quality range of pre-owned jewellery.

Since his retirement The Oak Chest remained a jewellers under various proprietors. Andrea Perry-Jones and Aled Jones took over running the business in February 2011. Aled and Mr Walker first met in the early 1980s when Aled began his jewellery career working as a trainee jeweller under the guidance of Mr Harrington in Chirk.

Repair

Mr Walker would bring his jewellery repairs to Chirk on a weekly basis where Aled would repair and refurbish many items for The Oak Chest.

Aled now has more than 30 years of jewellery repairing and making experience to help customers with their jewellery requirements.

Aled said: "Most items can be repaired to their original finery – and even a professional clean and polish of an older item can restore jewellery to its original condition, which surprises many customers."

Andrea, who gained her BA Hons in Applied Arts Jewellery & Metalwork in 2004, said: "We work on-site designing, making and repairing jewellery and provide a relaxed, informal experience."

"We stock an interesting range of jewellery with Cymru-y-Metel Welsh gold,



Ready to help customers at The Oak Chest Jewellers are Andrea Perry-Jones and Aled Jones, along with the shop founder Les Walker.

stunning marcasite jewellery, freshwater pearls and refurbished pre-owned gold and silver, including the popular range of vintage silver charms.

"We hope to build on our own jewellery collection this year."

Aled added: "We are busy with commissions to design and make one-off items for customers."

"As well as sourcing new materials we can use customers' broken and unworn precious metal items, melt them down and produce a new piece of beautiful jewellery."

"This has been especially popular with wedding rings, creating pieces with special meaning to the couple."

Anyone interested in selling any secondhand gold and silver is urged to get in touch with the shop. Good prices are paid as items can be refurbished or melted down to create new pieces.

You can find The Oak Chest Jewellers at 1 Oak Street, Llangollen LL20 8NR. Alternatively, call Andrea and Aled on 01978 860095.

The shop is open Tuesdays to Saturdays from 10am to 5pm.

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LLANGOLLEN

Popular cafe's expanding to cater in the evenings



Diners enjoying a meal at The Willows in Llandegla.

ANDREA and Paul Barnett moved into The Willows in Llandegla nearly three years ago with no thoughts of going into the catering business.

But following some encouragement from local friends in the village they decided to start serving a few snacks at The Willows Cafe.

One year on they now have a full range of food & drink from sandwiches to steaks to Sunday lunches, homemade cakes and will shortly be opening in the

Advertisement feature

evening with a fully licensed bar - The Willows Restaurant Bar & Grill.

Customers are assured of a warm and friendly welcome from Andrea & Paul and all the staff, with full waiter/waitress service with prices that won't break the bank.

The Offa's Dyke path runs through the village of Llandegla and other local attractions include the famous Horse Shoe Pass, Llangollen and the Mountain Bike Centre situated in Llandegla

forest. There is an outside beer garden with views of the stunning Welsh mountains and the restaurant has a cosy atmosphere with a log burning fire, access to a computer, free Wi Fi and parking.

With the support of their local customers, cyclists, walkers, tourists and motor cyclists the couple have come a long way in only one year and are looking forward to the next year to see what exciting new ways they can enhance the customer's dining experience.

Open for evening meals from May

Willows Restaurant Bar & Grill

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NEWS

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NEWS

in brief

Designer talents to go on display

MADE ON the Borders (M.O.B) is a new group aimed at bringing together the talents of artists, designers and food producers who live or work along the Offa's Dyke borders.

The group has been set up to showcase the uniqueness and quality of locally produced products. The first of these craft fairs will be held on May 11 at Oswestry Memorial Hall from 10am to 3pm.

For more details contact Trish Brunt on 07855 241370 or e-mail mobcraftosw@yahoo.co.uk

Farming leaders support Budget

WELSH farming leaders say the Budget will 'go some way' in helping farmers deal with spiralling costs.

Bosses at NFU Cymru say announcements to cut national insurance bills and scrap fuel duty will help struggling farms.

NFU Cymru president Ed Bailey said: "The new employment allowance will cut national insurance bills by £2,000 for every firm. This will benefit around 40,000 farm businesses in England and Wales."

Spring fair date

THE Macmillan Cancer Support Group's postponed spring fair will now be held this Saturday at the Memorial Hall in Oswestry from 10am.

Affordable homes plan for drug-plagued block of flats

PLANS TO build affordable homes in Oswestry, which will include the regeneration of a drug-plagued block of flats, have been outlined to councillors.

The plans are being spearheaded by Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing, the body which, on Monday, took over the running of council housing in the county.

Officers from the housing group told town councillors they had managed to secure government funding for a series of housing schemes in Oswestry.

Councillors heard this week that one of the sites was the Swan Lane flats development, which has been earmarked for demolition. Shropshire Council decided to demolish the flats because it was becoming increasingly difficult to let them to tenants because of the prevalence of drugs and related anti-social behaviour.

Three homes in the complex were targeted in April 2011 when police launched a major drugs crackdown nicknamed Operation Bubble.

Residents have been moved out over the past two years

Aldi plans to extend store

by Graham Breeze

BUDGET supermarket chain Aldi has announced plans to extend its Oswestry store.

The company says the move would allow it to increase its product range. The firm won permission for an identical scheme in 2006, but the work was never started.

In planning papers lodged with Shropshire Council the company says the expansion would bring the store nearer to the 'optimum' size for a branch.

The papers: "An Aldi is not considered to be a one-stop shopping destination as it doesn't contain a butcher, newsagent etc and will therefore allow customers to the store to park free of charge for a period of 90 minutes, thereby allowing customers to visit other town centre shops and services."

"Such activity will therefore assist in the promotion of the town centre's vitality and viability."

Shropshire Council hopes to determine the application by May 22.

Parking

Angela Douglas, from Shropshire Towns and Rural Housing, said three blocks of flats in Swan Lane would be demolished and 19 homes would be built in their place.

The new homes will be mix of two and three bedroomed houses rather than flats. She said eight would be affordable rented homes and 11 would be low cost home ownership houses.

Councillors also heard that schemes had been agreed to use land currently used for garages in Sefton Place and Gatacre Avenue in Oswestry for eight new affordable homes.

Councillor Paul Milner said he hoped enough parking would be made available at Sefton Place for the homeowners.

He was told additional parking was planned.

Councillor Peter Cherrington said the town council would look forward to seeing the planning applications.

Mum abandoned us for love



Gloria and younger sister Pauline with their father Bill Williams in 1952 or 1953 after leaving the home.

AS A four-year-old, Gloria Williams and her three siblings were abandoned in their Shropshire home by their mum who ran off to London with the village policeman.

"We weren't found for a few days. They said we were in a terrible state," said Gloria.

A childhood in care in Shropshire followed, and Gloria - now Gloria Plumbe and living in Dorset - is to write a book about her life, and is hoping that others who were in care with her will get in touch to share their memories.

Gloria added: "My dad was in the Army at the time."

"We were all together from 1945 in The Mount institution in Shrewsbury until July 20, 1946, when I was moved to Sutton Lodge children's home in Shrewsbury."

"My sister Pauline joined me in September 1949."

Anyone with information can contact Gloria by writing to 6 Hyde Cottages, Prospect Road, Lytchett Matravers, Poole, Dorset BH16 6EE, or by calling 01202 632138 or 07776 146505.

Budding chefs get qualified on course

EIGHT budding chefs have completed an intensive hospitality and catering course to help them into jobs.

Students at Walford and North Shropshire College have gained qualifications in food safety, health and safety, customer care skills, food preparation and cooking, and an award in responsible alcohol retailing.

The qualifications could help them into hotels, restaurants, cafes, bars and industrial catering.

One of the requirements of the course is for every student to get practical work experience, and so they have been working at Oswestry's The Walls Restaurant, Wynnstay Hotel, Sweeney Hall Hotel, 7 Day Catering and the Black Lion in Ellesmere.

Some have now been offered jobs.

WNSC Training Assessor, Dan Tompson, who has worked closely with the students throughout training, will continue to support and assess them in their individual workplaces, if they decide to work for their Level 2 Hospitality and Catering Apprenticeship.

Mr Tompson said: "The candidates have done incredibly well, especially given that many of them have come into an environment that may have seemed a little daunting to them at first."

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On the Road

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The latest Octavia is bigger than before (and it was one of the most spacious in its class already) and improved in so many ways with lots of technology that does not just make your motoring life more comfortable but an awful lot safer too.

It's based on the platform that underpins the latest Seat Leon and VW Golf, but it has a

By Sharon Walters

longer wheelbase and an extended rear overhang to help distance it from those two siblings from the same ultimate stable.

Even though prices have risen by around £2,000 compared with the outgoing Octavia, the replacement is much better equipped and is in fact better value for money.

There's a choice of two turbo petrol engines and two diesels, with an ultra-efficient 89g/km Greenline set for later this year, and a not-to-be-missed 217bhp vRS hot hatch. Can't wait to try that!

On a test route that took in winding back roads and a stretch of motorway the drive was pleasant with little effect from the bumps and potholes encountered.

Refinement is good, too. There was little tyre rumble or wind noise and the atmosphere is good in the cabin which has a good quality finish.

There is so much space for passengers that I imagined the boot capacity would be compromised – but no, you get a massive space.

Reversible

You also get Velcro dividers, a reversible floor with one side carpeted and the other wipe-clean rubber for when you carry dirty dogs!

The parcel shelf neatly stores away flush with the rear seats which means you don't leave it lying around or taking up valuable load space.

There are three trims – S, SE and Elegance – and across the range you get more than German marques offer including air-conditioning, smart alloy wheels, seven airbags, stability control, Bluetooth, DAB radio, six-disc CD changer and a USB socket. And now take a breath . . . much more to mention but not enough space.

Go up to up to SE trim and you also get such goodies as rear parking sensors, dual-zone climate control, front foglights and rear electric windows. Invest in the range-topping



The Octavia is available in three trim levels – S, SE and Elegance. Prices from £15,990

Elegance and the sat-nav is superb, there are larger alloys, leather upholstery, cruise control and automatic lights and wipers.

It is excellent value for money, is generally cheaper to insure than rivals and has lower CO2 emissions with the diesel escaping the London Congestion Charge – the car is really a winner.

Taking a look back over the history of the Octavia you discover that 44 in every 100 Skodas built are Octavias and more than 3.7

million have been sold since the first ones arrived back in 1996 – that makes me feel really old. No wonder such effort has been put into making the new Octavia even more successful to build on such incredible success.

The new Octavia line-up starts at £15,990 for a 1.2-litre petrol model in S trim, rising to £23,240 for the range-topping 2.0 diesel automatic.

Forget the badge snobbery and go out and buy a Skoda Octavia.



The new Skoda Octavia is even more spacious than the outgoing model

A 12-page commercial feature



Peugeot 208, the new compact crossover, is an exciting addition to the brand line-up

Stunning crossover

After the 208 next comes the 2008. Peugeot's stunning new compact crossover – making its world debut in road-ready production trim – builds on the success of the popular supermini and was one of the stars of the 2013 Geneva Motor Show.

With its perfect mix of contemporary styling, clean and efficient engines, plus a versatile cabin, it's an exciting addition to the brand's already comprehensive line-up.

The 2008 is the latest expression of Peugeot's renewed brand positioning on its move up market and clearly visible in the 2008. The 2008 signals the marque's arrival in a highly competitive sector, pushing customers' expectations to a new level. The car oozes desirability, with an athletic design, engaging driving experience, high levels of comfort and equipment, and outstanding quality in materials and finish.

Further enhancing Peugeot's strategy of boosting its crossover range to attract new customers, the 2008 is a truly global car. It addresses the increasing demands of customers around the world and is the first vehicle produced by the marque which has been designed, developed and engi-

neered simultaneously by employees based in Europe, China and Latin America. Vehicles for Europe will be produced in the factory in Mulhouse, France.

The 2008 brings a new level of innovation to the B-segment by combining the expertise and experience of two acclaimed Peugeot vehicles – the award-winning 3008 and the new 208 supermini.

Characterful

With a characterful on-the-road presence, the 2008 is intended for young city-dwellers who love the urban environment but also enjoy escaping from it.

In keeping with the dynamism of its profiled silhouette, power comes from the latest generation of low fuel consumption Peugeot engines. With e-HDi diesel and three-cylinder petrol technology, Peugeot's urban cross-over stands out from the competition due to CO2 emissions starting at just 98g/km. Fuel economy can be as high as 61.8mpg.

To register your interest in the 2008, and take part in a launch activity, please contact the Peugeot sales team at Budgen Motors in Shrewsbury on 01743 452888 or email peugeot@budgenmotors.co.uk

New Range Rover is ultimate sports SUV

The all-new Range Rover Sport is the ultimate premium sports SUV – the fastest, most agile and responsive Land Rover ever.

Developed alongside the highly-acclaimed all-new Range Rover, the new Range Rover Sport now delivers the brand's best-ever on-road dynamics together with class-leading, genuine Land Rover all-terrain capability.

The new, technology-packed, Range Rover Sport presents customers with a more assertive and muscular exterior, more luxurious interior and the flexibility provided by the option of occasional 5+2 seating.

Dynamic

Exploiting Land Rover's breakthrough lightweight suspension design and innovative dynamic chassis technologies, the Sport's all-new, first-in-class aluminium architecture achieves a weight saving of up to 420kg. This transforms the vehicle's dynamic performance, enabling it to blend agile handling with exceptional comfort, offering a unique mix of sporting luxury and a dynamic, connected driving experience, along with CO2 emissions reduced to 194g/km.

The dynamic new Range Rover Sport has a bold and progressive exterior design that is assertive, powerful and muscular, hinting at the improved driving performance, and positioning the vehicle clearly between the Range Rover and the Evoque through a clear, shared design DNA.

With a fresh interpretation of the previous model's distinctive design, the new vehicle has a sleek and contemporary appearance combined with enhanced



The Range Rover Sport delivers class-leading all-terrain capability

use of space. The new Sport is just 62mm longer than its predecessor, yet at 4850mm, it is shorter than other seven-seater SUVs and most E segment sedans, bringing greater manoeuvrability and ease of parking. However, a significantly longer wheelbase (increased by 178mm) provides greater room and improved access for rear passengers.

At launch, all-new Range Rover Sport customers will have a choice of four engines – two supercharged petrol engines (5.0-litre 510PS V8 and the new 3.0-litre 340PS V6) and two diesel engines (3.0-litre 258PS TDV6 and 292PS SDV6).

The powertrain line-up will be expanded later in this year by the addition of a high performance 4.4-litre 339PS SDV8 diesel version. In addition, an innovative, high-efficiency diesel hybrid model will be available to order later this year for delivery in 2014.

A design benchmark in its segment, the Sport interior offers a unique blend of style and understated luxury with strong, elegant lines, top quality materials and an extra dash of sporting character. Strong, architectural forms within the interior have been enhanced by a cleaner, purer surface treatment, beautifully executed with more luxurious soft-touch surfaces in key touch points around the cabin.

Tony Macera, sales manager at Shukers Land Rover Shrewsbury said: "The all new Range Rover Sport is, the ultimate luxury SUV and is a fantastic addition to the Range Rover family. We are looking forward to showing the vehicle to customers old and new later this year."

For more information on The all-new Range Rover Sport, contact Shukers Land Rover Shrewsbury 01743 450 045 or Shukers Land Rover Ludlow 01584 877 231.

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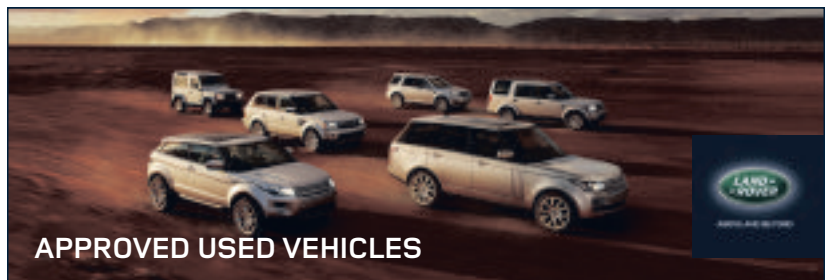
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The official fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km) for the 208 range are: Urban 34.9 – 78.4 (8.1 – 3.6), Extra Urban 62.8 – 88.2 (4.5 – 3.2), Combined 48.7 – 83.0 (5.8 – 3.4) and CO2 135 – 87.

*Terms and conditions apply, participating dealers only or visit www.peugeot.co.uk. The first year Road Fund Licence (RFL) is included in the on the road price. The Dealer will provide customers with a cheque equivalent to twice the current RFL cost. The customer must apply for years 2 & 3 RFL. Just Add Fuel (JAF) is subject to status. *Minimum age 21, 25 or 30 on selected models, maximum age 75. Policyholder must have a minimum of 2 years NCD to use on the vehicle. All drivers must meet eligibility criteria including minimum 2 years' full UK licence, driving convictions/claims limits. Excesses apply. 3 years motor insurance is provided and underwritten by U K Insurance Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. A guarantee may be required. Written quotations available from Peugeot Financial Services, Quadrant House, Princess Way, Redhill, RH1 1QA. JAF is incorporated into a Personal Lease contract. 208 Access 1.0 VTI 68 3dr initial rental £2,000, optional final rental £4,510, 35 monthly rentals. If you choose to pay off the optional final rental, you can pay an annual rental equivalent to one of your monthly rentals but will not own the car. Ownership is possible with JAF Passport, ask your Dealer for details. Rentals quoted for a typical customer & will vary according to age, post code and annual mileage. Excess mileage charges may apply. Routine servicing included only. Excludes wear parts. This offer is not available in N.I. Offer available on cars ordered and registered by 30th June 2013. Calls may be recorded for training purposes.



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12 12 DEFENDER 110 2.2D COUNTY UTILITY WAGON MANUAL	Santorini Black, Black Cloth Interior, 4,000 miles.....	£24,000 PLUS VAT
10 60 DEFENDER 90 2.4D XS MANUAL	Santorini Black, Ebony Black Part Leather, 27,092 miles.....	£23,995
10 10 DEFENDER 90 2.4D HARD TOP MANUAL	Galway Green, County Grey Cloth Interior, 30,195 miles.....	£14,995 PLUS VAT

Shukers Land Rover, Shrewsbury

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Andy Clee from William A. Lewis Business Centre

Andy has key role

One of Shropshire's biggest motor business centres is expanding with the appointment of a highly experienced group fleet sales manager.

Andy Clee, whose experience in contract hire and leasing goes back nearly a quarter of a century, is now running the William A. Lewis Business Centre covering its locations in Shrewsbury and Telford where it is firmly established.

Of his new appointment, Andy said: "It is my goal to make the business community of Shropshire and Mid Wales even more aware of William A. Lewis through its six franchises.

"At the same time, awareness of the financial options available to business, whether sole trader, partnerships, limited companies or PLCs. We have attractive financial packages which cover a wide range of options.

Advice

"I am on hand to offer help and advice on options for business vehicles, whether cars or vans from the six manufacturers that William A. Lewis handle."

Andy, 48, who is Shropshire born and bred, started in the motor industry as an apprentice technician straight from school. He will shortly be celebrating 25 years in the motor industry.

His experience is hands on which he believes is important to prospective business clients.

"I have gone right through the trade, from an apprentice to a sales manager with special experience of contract hire and leasing.

"I feel this is important to my role at William A. Lewis which is keen to expand its business centre and develop its portfolio of local business clients, whether one person or multiple organisations.

"I can assist with their fleet and business finance," added Andy who is looking after all the business interests of no fewer than six franchises.

Cross Country at town dealership

The Volvo V40 has proved to be a big seller and the new Cross Country is already creating a lot of interest at Shropshire's Volvo dealership.

Prices for the all-new Volvo V40 Cross Country, now in the showroom and available for test drive at William A. Lewis Volvo, start from £22,595 on the road.

The highly efficient D2 engine will deliver an amazing 99g/km of CO₂, with 74.3mpg on the combined cycle.

With such small figures, it makes the Benefit in Kind company car tax very low. There are also major benefits in other taxation. For example, the sub-100g figure means there is no vehicle tax in the first year or subsequent years. It is also currently exempt from the London Congestion Charge.

Eight-valve

The D2 is an eight-valve engine with a top speed of 115mph and 0-60mph acceleration takes 11.2 seconds. Maximum torque of 270Nm is available from 1750-2500rpm. The other two diesel engines on offer are the five-cylinder D3 and D4.

New for the Cross Country is the high-performance T5 petrol engine. The five-cylinder 2.5-litre 254hp engine is the sportiest choice in the V40 range. 0-60mph acceleration takes just six seconds while top speed is 146mph.

The V40 Cross Country has been designed with a more rugged and sleek look for those seeking a sense of adventure. It gives increased ride height, practical versatility and the option of all-wheel drive.

Volvo has paid special attention to ensure the dynamic drive of the V40 is



Chris Bent, from the William A. Lewis Volvo sales team, admires the new V40 Cross Country in the Featherbed Lane showroom, Shrewsbury

not lost with the increased ride height of the Cross Country. It has been designed to offer the optimum handling, steering feel, agility and ride comfort.

With Volvo, safety will always be a top priority when it comes to car design and features. The V40 Cross Country is fitted as standard with Volvo's low-speed

collision avoidance system, City Safety, and the world's first pedestrian airbag. These, amongst many other safety features, have helped the V40 receive the highest overall score in Euro NCAP's tests.

For a test drive of the new V40 Cross Country, contact the William A. Lewis Volvo sales team on 01743 441251.



Martin Priddy shows the MG6 GT's unique exterior

Special on show

A Special Edition MG6 is in the showroom of Shropshire's MG dealer to celebrate the successful return of MG to the British Touring Car Championships.

The Arctic White MG6 GT BTCC Special Edition on display at William A. Lewis MG, Featherbed Lane, Harlescote, Shrewsbury, is for sale at £16,995.

MG successfully returned to the popular motorsport last year and twice champion Jason Plato is driving for MG again in this year's competition which got under way at Brands Hatch at the end of last month.

Unique

As William A. Lewis MG's Martin Priddy (pictured) shows, the MG6 GT has unique exterior features which he is confident will attract showroom visitors keen to learn more about the specification.

The Special Edition has a BTCC badge to the front grille and BTCC Edition graphics to the side sill rear and interior passenger fascia.

The spec also includes sports driver and passenger front seats delivering high levels of lateral support and comfort.

The 1.8-litre petrol turbo engine has 160PS and sport performance tyres. The Special Edition has cruise control, electronic hill hold function, leather-covered steering wheel, integrated full-colour satellite navigation, rear parking sensors and front fog lights.

"And there's much more for the enthusiast to come and see," says Martin.

More information can be obtained by contacting Serge Capellas, William A. Lewis MG sales consultant, on 01743 450030.

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Renault range are: Urban 27.2 (10.4)-78.5 (3.6); Extra Urban 45.6 (6.2)-94.2 (3.0); Combined 36.7 (7.7)-88.3 (3.2). The official CO₂ emissions for the range are 178-83g/km.

*4+ Terms and exclusions apply. Warranty 100,000 miles. Service 48,000 miles. Please see warranty terms and conditions (www.renault.co.uk/warranty). 4+ package is included as standard on eligible vehicles. The value of the package (with the exception of Twingo) is based on £60 for 4-year Roadside Assistance cover and between £305 and £720 for 4-year warranty cover, depending on the Renault model. Servicing also varies from £589 to £1,214 depending on vehicle and servicing in line with manufacturer's minimum maintenance programme based on an average national hourly labour rate of £70. Figures for illustrative purposes only. No cash alternative. Visit www.renault.co.uk/4plus. *Representative APR 0%. Typical example: Megane Hatch Dynamique TomTom® 1.6 110 (finance example based on hire purchase over 60 months), Cash price £17,550, Customer deposit (min. 20%) £3,510, deposit contribution £1,000, followed by 60 monthly payments of £217.33. 0% hire purchase is available on the New Clio range over 4 years and Twingo over 5 years with a 50% deposit. These offers are available on new cars when ordered between 6 to the 16 April 2013, inclusive. Offers exclude Twingo Renaultsport, Clio Renaultsport, Megane Renaultsport range, Z.E. range and New Clio Expression. All offers are available at participating dealers only and cannot be used in conjunction with other schemes or finance offers, please check with local dealer for details. Offers are available to retail and business customers (but exclude fleet customers with own terms). You must be at least 18 and a UK resident (excluding the Isle of Man and Channel Islands) to apply. Finance provided by RCI Financial Services Limited, PO Box 149 Watford WD17 1FL.

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*Business users only. Examples exclude VAT based on non-maintained contract hire with an initial payment of 6 monthly rentals, followed by 35 monthly rentals, with a mileage of 10,000 miles per annum. Excess mileage charges apply. Similar hire offers available for non-business users. Subject to availability at participating dealers for vehicles registered between 1st April 2013 and 30th June 2013, or while stocks last. Not available with other promotions. Volvo Car Leasing Contract Hire is provided by Lex Autolease Ltd, trading as Volvo Car Leasing. See volvocars.co.uk for full terms and conditions.

William A. Lewis 01743 441251

Kia Sportage crossover has style and substance

By Sharon Walters

Sometimes when you want the security of four-wheel drive without spending a fortune on one of the top ones in its class, you have to make sacrifices.

But with the Kia Sportage KX-4 you only make one concession and in fact benefit by bucketloads.

That concession is not playing the green card quite as strongly, because CO2 emissions are slightly higher than similar rivals.

But what you do get is a lot of car for your money in this SUV format without having to dig deep into your pocket. You also benefit from Kia's seven-year, 100,000 mile warranty. And what that warranty states quite clearly is that Kia has got build and reliability right as it is the only brand in the UK to offer a seven-year warranty on its new cars.

Prestige

You may not have that badge prestige, or as I prefer to call 'snobbery', but you know how best to spend your money.

A trip through flooded highways and byways to a winter break recently was made so much easier by the capability of the KX-4. And with increasing rain and floods as well as icy and snowy roads for much of the winter, a 4x4 is becoming a popular option – especially for those who live in remoter areas. It has to be said, however, our weather-hit roads are fast becoming the norm wherever you live or travel.



The Kia Sportage KX-4 is a value-for-money crossover with a seven-year warranty

This range-topping version of the Sportage has a 2.0-litre CRDi turbodiesel engine with 181bhp and that's plenty to cope with a vehicle laden down with family and luggage and it doesn't look like a truck if you have to use it for work.

If you need to be nippy you can get from 0-60mph in 9.4 seconds and there's a top limit of 120mph. But don't be fearful of fuel consumption as you can get between 46 and 50mpg when laden and that is good for the size of the vehicle. That and the fact that you are not chugging along but travelling at a decent pace with a bit in reserve in case of emergencies.

Handling is very good with little body roll, even when travelling around exposed country roads being battered by gale force winds, and a composed ride. And the Sportage also managed some potholed roads very well.

For more risky driving, the torque-lock came into its own leaving you feeling much more secure with your tyres firmly planted on slippery surfaces. I didn't get the chance to try out the hill descent control as conditions didn't need that extra restraint – basically I didn't hit snow or mud on steep slopes.

All models have a maximum unbraked towing capacity of 750kg, while its braked figure ranges from 1,200 to 2,000 depending on which model you go for. So caravanners can tow up to 2,000kg with the KX-4 – although I would prefer to see a boat behind it.

Now back to what you get for your hard-earned money – and here just think of what you get from other more expensive vehicles in the sector, or rather what you don't unless you pay for a range of options.



The interior of the Sportage, which has a good standard of finish

Inside there's a full-leather interior, excellent sat-nav, cruise control and climate control. In addition you have 18-inch alloys, Xenon headlights, park assist, front and rear parking sensors, stainless steel scuff plates and a panoramic sunroof.

And now to the looks and an interesting question that a Kia PR once asked me: "What have the original Audi TT and the new Kia Sportage got in common?"

I didn't get it and that's because I had not properly read the press kit – very remiss of me. The answer was inside; the pair share the same designer, the very talented Peter Schreyer who has added a great deal of style to Kia since he jumped ship.

It's good looking without being too 'pretty' with a decent standard of finish inside and out

including doors that are substantial and close firmly.

Ground clearance is good without making you feel you are on stilts and there is plenty of headroom, legroom and room for three in the back, and a massive boot.

With the seats up you get 564 litres and if you fold them down watch it increase to 1,353 litres. And that's another plus. The rear seats have a one-touch folding function which can be released and folded from the boot without you having to have elastic arms or be a contortionist.

Prices start at little more than £27,000 for the Sportage KX-4. Add that seven-year warranty and you have a compact crossover with a 'buy me' light flashing above its head in bright red.

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Mazda Range: Urban 21.9 (12.9) - 55.4 (5.1), Extra Urban 38.7 (7.3) - 78.5 (3.6), Combined 30.1 (9.4) - 67.3 (4.2). CO₂ emissions (g/km) 219 - 108. Retail sales only, subject to vehicle availability for vehicles registered between 01.04.13 and 30.06.13 at participating dealers. T&C apply. *0% finance available on all Mazda2, Mazda3 and Mazda MX-5 models. Examples shown: Mazda2 1.3 3dr TS Air Con, £159 per month with an Optional Final Payment of £3,232, includes up to £2,131 off the price. Mazda3 1.6 5dr TS Air Con, £199 per month with an Optional Final Payment of £3,232, includes up to £1,000 off the price. Mazda MX-5 1.8i 3dr TS Air Con, £255 per month with an Optional Final Payment of £750, includes up to £2,131 off the price. All prices are based on 9,000 miles per annum over 42 months on Mazda Personal Contract Purchase and include dealer contribution. At the end of the agreement there are 3 options: (i) Renew: Part exchange the vehicle, where equity is available, (ii) Retain: Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Further charges may be made subject to the condition of the vehicle. Finance subject to status, 18% or over. Guarantee/indemnity may be required. Mazda Financial Services RH1 SR. Models shown: Mazda2 1.3 3dr TS Air Con, OTR £10,495; Mazda3 1.6 5dr TS Air Con, OTR £15,995; Mazda MX-5 1.8i 3dr TS Air Con, OTR £17,745 including a £750 saving. Mazda3 model shown features optional Pearl Rescent paint (E500). OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, first registration fee, 3 year or 60,000 mile warranty and 3 years' European roadside assistance. Details correct at time of going to print. Not available in conjunction with any other offer unless specified. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers. We may receive a commission from them for the introduction.

There's no time for a siesta in this Fiesta

By Ian Donaldson

Picture the scene; ahead of you is a ribbon of road stretching to the far horizon with tempting corners and nobody else about. Do you take the 'dream' Lamborghini or Ford's new zesty Fiesta?

The Lambo, of course. Or perhaps not. The road is rather narrow and there are enough nasty surfaces (the odd pothole too) to make the Italian rocket feel big and a bit fragile.

So you don your sensible hat and jump into the Fiesta ST, latest in a line of entertaining small Fords that started with the XR2 in 1981 and soon became the nation's favourite hot hatch.

Nothing much is likely to change 32 years later, with the UK set to take 5,000 ST Fiestas annually, around half of European sales overall. Yes, we still love a quick, affordable Ford.

And affordable the new baby with attitude really is.

There are two versions, the plainly titled ST at £16,795 and the better equipped ST2 at £17,795, both of them clearly undercutting obvious rivals from the likes of Renault and (soon) Peugeot.

Powering the ST is a potent 182 horsepower, 1.6-litre turbo petrol engine that promises decent economy when you're not enjoying that sinuous snake of road mentioned above.

But what marks the newcomer out isn't its outright performance, but the compelling way it refuses to turn into a springless skateboard when the road turns from billiard table smooth to B-road brittle.

Engineering

It's a genuine engineering achievement to produce a car that's so much fun, practically wherever you happen to be.

The Lamborghini, on the other hand, will turn all pouty at the first sign of a speedbump, never mind a width restrictor or the crawl to work in the morning.

On paper, there's nothing magic about the ST.

It could be one of many small hatches designed to add a dash of spice to everyday driving. What sets the car apart (and Ford has form in this department) is the obvious attention to the smallest detail that other car makers give up on sooner.

You can't tell by looking, you have to take a Fiesta ST for a longish drive, where the supple but sporty suspension, perfectly weighted steering and brakes that practically start a conversation with your right foot will have you wanting more.

What you can tell by looking is that the ST stands out from its softer siblings, thanks to a bold honeycomb radiator grille, large rear spoiler and twin exhausts.

There are big alloy wheels, tinted glass and a slightly lower stance too. Inside, you'll find grippy front seats in cloth as the main marker that here is a car designed to corner quickly.

A heated windscreen (which is just magic on those frosty mornings) and a DAB radio are standard too. Pay your extra £1,000 for an ST2 and you add heated and part leather seats, a better sound system, darkened glass for rear seat passengers and a button to start the engine, with the key left in your pocket.

Both versions share a dashboard that was clearly inspired by mobile phones but looks a bit old hat and cluttered, but there's no denying the quality of everything you can see and touch. And you certainly won't be trying to tune the radio when you're having so much fun producing a different sort of music from beneath the bonnet.



Ford's new Fiesta ST which is certain to go down a storm with UK buyers



The Fiesta ST interior may look old hat but is packed with good quality fittings

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Official fuel consumption figures in mpg for cars shown. Lowest: (l/100km): FORD Ka 1.2 Duratec 69PS MS: urban 48.7 (5.8), extra urban 64.2 (4.4), combined 57.6 (4.9). Official CO₂ emission 115g/km. Highest FORD B-Max 1.4 Duratec 90PS MS: urban 35.8 (7.9), extra urban 57.6 (4.9), combined 47.1 (6.0). Official CO₂ emission 149g/km. *Finance subject to status. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Freepost Ford Credit. This supersedes all previously advertised manufacturer's promotions. Details correct at time of going to print. retail only. Subject to stock availability, terms and conditions apply, please ask us for full details.

Follow us on



The Fiesta ST is poetry in motion on the open road



The Cascada is the first full-sized convertible model designed by Vauxhall since the 1930s



The Cascada range will be priced from £23,995 on the road and carry Vauxhall's Lifetime Warranty

Set for new model launch

Greenhous is preparing for yet another exciting new vehicle launch this month to add to the impressive Vauxhall line-up. The Cascada will be released mid-April and is the first full-size convertible designed by Vauxhall since the 1930s.

The new release is set to revitalise the full-size convertible segment as Vauxhall launches the company into a fourth new sector in a year, following on from the highly successful Ampera, Mokka and ADAM models.

Richard Potts, sales director at Greenhous, believes the Cascada will continue to propel Vauxhall into the luxury market whilst remaining affordable.

He said: "The Cascada launch is incredibly exciting for Greenhous and continues to mark the rejuvenation of Vauxhall into a more credible and fashionable brand."

"With the launch of four brand new models in the space of a year, it is clear that Vauxhall is keen to update its image and it has certainly done just that. The Cascada is something completely different for the brand and we are extremely excited by this stylish car."

With the innovative electric Ampera, the top selling mini SUV – Mokka, and the brand new, urban-chic ADAM, Vauxhall's latest addition is nothing short of luxury. At nearly 4.7 metres in length, the full-size, four-seat, fabric-roof Cascada convertible is longer than most other rivals including the Audi A5 convertible.

The Cascada range will be priced from just £23,995 on the road, nearly £8,000 less than an Audi A5 Cabriolet,

when it arrives in showrooms this month. As with all Vauxhalls, Cascada owners will benefit from a Lifetime Warranty which lasts for the life of the car or up to 100,000 miles for the first owner.

Affordable

Richard continued "The Cascada really is a convertible to contend with and is sure to hold its own in a segment that is already occupied by quality manufacturers. Although the Cascada offers premium features and state-of-the-art technologies, it still remains affordable for the customer at a mainstream price."

"It is important for us at Greenhous to ensure we offer the highest levels of equipment, technology and luxury at a reasonable price in order to stay true to our customer base."

Aerodynamically clean and refined, the soft top of the new Vauxhall Cascada fits perfectly with the pillar-less style. Opening the roof takes just 17 seconds and can be raised or lowered at speeds up to 30mph. With ventilated, powered ergonomic sports seats, the Cascada offers extreme comfort. The infotainment package includes crystal clear navigation along with voice recognition for phone, radio, navigation and CD/USB controls.

Richard concludes: "The Cascada really does have outstanding quality with a premium feel. Although summer is on its way, this car is versatile enough to be driven all year round."

"With a reasonable price tag, the Cascada is far more affordable than its competitors. The elegance in design along with great functionality ensures it will be as successful for Greenhous as the recent new releases."

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VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 20.6 (13.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO₂ emissions: 324 - 88g/km.

Available on selected models only, at participating retailers. Refer to www.vauxhall.co.uk/offers or contact your local Vauxhall retailer for details. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantee / Indemnity may be required. Finance supplied by either Vauxhall Motor Finance RH115R or Vauxhall Finance, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. *24-60 month term, excluding ADAM models (24-48 month term). Offer will apply to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only, excluding B2B supported units). All other customers are excluded. Vauxhall Lifetime warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply. *Corsa £2995 customer deposit (after deduction of Vauxhall contribution) followed by 60 monthly payments of £149. †Astra £4815 customer deposit (after deduction of Vauxhall contribution and customer saving) followed by 60 monthly payments of £179. Astra shown includes brilliant paint, optional at extra cost (£250). Offers available on orders or registrations before 1 July 2013. We can introduce you to a limited number of finance providers, commission may be received.

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Escape the daily grind at converted corn mill



The Mill is tucked away in the hamlet of Weston, just one mile from Oswestry town centre

A rare chance has arisen to purchase a Grade II listed property which has been sympathetically converted to create a spacious family home.

The Mill, Weston, near Oswestry, is for sale with Bowen Son & Watson at a guide price of £425,000.

With its own mill pond and original features including a working water wheel, the four-bedroom property has been carefully converted to retain the character of the original building while offering versatile accommodation.

There is an entrance hall with adjoining workshop containing the working pit wheel and shafts, and stairs to the first floor (with underfloor heating) where there is a sitting room with woodburning stove. A door opens onto a large terrace overlooking the mill pond.

Marble

Leading off the sitting room is the spacious kitchen/dining room with hand-made oak units, marble worktops, a range cooker and fitted pantry.

The second floor (which also has underfloor heating) has a large study and good-sized lounge with a fireplace housing a woodburning stove.

On the third floor are three bedrooms, one ensuite, and a superior family bathroom. The fourth floor makes an ideal master suite with a bathroom, dressing room and access to a viewing platform.

The lawned gardens include the mill pond, decked area, driveway and car port. An adjacent two/three-bedroom bungalow is available to purchase by separate negotiation.

Call the agents on 01691 652367 or visit www.bowensonandwatson.co.uk



Charming cottage just a short walk from canal

An attractive mews cottage in a convenient village location, 2 West Lea, Rhosweil, Weston Rhyn, has excellent commuter links.

The three-bedroom character property is on the market with Halls priced at £129,950.

Located a short walk from the Llangollen Canal, it has immaculate accommodation comprising two reception rooms, a conservatory, kitchen, utility, bathroom, three bedrooms, gas central heating, double glazing, parking and a neatly kept garden.

For further information contact Halls on 01691 670320 or visit the website www.hallsestateagents.co.uk



Three-bed bungalow is ripe for renovation

A three-bedroom detached bungalow in need of modernisation is on the market with Woodhead Estates.

Woodside, Pant, near Oswestry, is for sale priced at offers over £114,950 with no upward chain.

Accommodation comprises an entrance hall, living room, rear hall-way, kitchen, sun room, bathroom, master bedroom, two further bedrooms, oil-fired central heating and gardens to front and rear.

For further information contact Woodhead Estates on 01691 680044 or visit www.woodheadestates.com



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Halls



Wenffrwd Smithy, Llansilin

Price: £249,950

A three/ four bedroom character cottage with babbling brook situated on the outskirts of Llansilin. The property offers immense character and charm and the accommodation is very adaptable and versatile.

- Former Smithy
- Annex / Holiday Cottage Potential
- Gardens
- Parking
- Countryside Views

Contact Oswestry



Peach Tree House, Monfa, Llansilin

Price: £184,950

Dating back to 1860 this DETACHED family home offers spacious accommodation.

- 4 Bedrooms
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Countryside Walks
- Oil Central Heating
- Character Features
- Current EPC Rating

Contact Oswestry



Banhadla Cottages, Pentre Felin

Price: £94,950

A three bedroom cottage situated in a picturesque hamlet location with views of the open countryside from both front and rear.

- 3 Bedroom Cottage
- Situated in Tanat Valley
- Gardens To Front & Rear
- Requires Updating
- Current EPC Rating F

Contact Oswestry



College Road, Oswestry

Price: £174,950

Occupying a large corner plot, this detached three bedroom bungalow has been updated by the current owners.

- 3 Bedroom
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Gas Fired Central Heating
- Detached Garage, Car Port & Parking
- Large Corner Plot
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



Regent Court, Oswestry

Price: £118,500

A well appointed two bedroom first floor apartment within easy level walking distance to the town centre.

- 2 Bed Apartment
- Walking Distance To Town
- Double Glazing
- Parking
- Communal Areas
- Current EPC Rating B

Contact Oswestry



View Cottage, Llanymynech

Price: £285,000

This cottage benefits from magnificent views over the English / Welsh borderland to The Breidden Hills and across to the Shropshire Plain. Nestled on the side on Llanymynech Hill this property is a walkers dream with many routes and trails across unspoilt countryside, Offas Dyke or Montgomery Canal.

- 3 Double Bed Cottage
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Sits In Approx 0.65 Of An Acre
- Countryside Views
- 3 Timber Sheds & Summerhouse
- Current EPC Rating E

Contact Oswestry



Croeswylan Lane, Oswestry

Price: £475,000

Located in a most prestigious and sought after area, Yeardsley is a most well presented five bedroom detached family home offering well proportioned accommodation in excellent decorative order.

- 5 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 4 Receptions & Open Plan Kitchen / Family Room
- Gas CH & DG
- Extensive Gardens
- Viewing Highly Recommended
- Current EPC Rating E

Contact Oswestry



Former Lion Hotel, Llanymynech

Price: £70,000

This substantial Grade II Listed Georgian Building requires a full renovation. Formerly a Public House and Hotel located centrally within a popular village with the A483 on the door step. Of particular interest to cash purchasers and investors.

- Grade II Listed Georgian Building
- Requires Full Renovation
- Former Pub & Hotel
- Central Village Location
- Close To A483

Contact Oswestry



Station Road, Whittington

Price: £164,950

An immaculate semi detached Victorian family home offering spacious accommodation with parking, carport/garage and garden.

- 2 Bedroom Semi Detached
- Updated By Current Vendor
- Gas CH & UPVC DG
- Garage / Carport & Parking
- Garden & Patio Area
- Current EPC Rating E

Contact Oswestry



Amberwood, Pant

Price: £299,950

This detached family home is deceptively spacious, situated on an elevated position with panoramic views across the Shropshire Plain to the Breidden Hills and Rodney's Pillar.

- 5/6 Bedroom (2 With En-Suites)
- 2/3 Receptions & Conservatory
- Oil CH & DG
- Double Garage & Parking
- Versatile & Adaptable Accommodation
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



Pyllau Gwyddau, Llanrhaeadr

Price: £285,000

Dating back to the 1700's this detached South Facing cottage benefits from lovely views and is situated on a quiet country lane a few miles from Llanrhaeadr. The cottage offers character and charm throughout. The property is warmed by oil fired central heating which is complimented by the solar photovoltaics panels and benefits from double glazing. The cottage gardens are a notable feature of the property with babbling brook and views to Craig Orllwyn Hill.

- Reception Hall/Utility Room
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Dining Room, Lounge
- First Floor Landing
- Three Bedrooms
- Large Bathroom
- Gardens & Grounds

Contact Oswestry



Glentworth Avenue, Oswestry

Price: £239,950

A well appointed three bedroom detached bungalow situated in a most sought after residential area. The property has recently undergone a scheme of renovation and offers contemporary living accommodation to a high standard that needs to be viewed to be truly appreciated.

- 3 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- Gas CH & UPVC DG
- Garage & Parking
- Gardens
- Viewing Highly Recommended
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



Paddock Cottage, Nantmawr

Price: £329,000

A beautifully appointed and attractively designed modern detached country house with landscaped gardens having mature trees, hedges ad shrubs, adjoining paddock and detached outbuilding, set in APPROXIMATELY TWO ACRES of hillside grazing.

- 3 Bed (Master & En-Suite)
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Gardens, Orchard & Paddock
- Outbuilding
- Parking
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



Offas Park, Four Crosses

Price: £249,950

An immaculate detached family home built in 2000 offering spacious accommodation situated in generous gardens with double garage.

- 4 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- Triple Aspect Lounge
- Oil CH & DG
- Double Garage & Parking
- Village Location
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



Nantmawr Chapel

Price: £325,000

A former chapel and village school offering spacious and adaptable accommodation over three floors with views of the open countryside.

- 5 Bed (3 With En-Suites)
- Character Features
- Contemporary Interiors
- Garden & Ample Parking
- Rural Location
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



Chapel Croft, Weston Rhyn

Price: £219,950

This immaculate detached three bedroom bungalow with large conservatory, garage and parking must be viewed to be appreciated.

- 3 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Gas Fired Central Heating
- Gardens
- Garage & Parking
- Current EPC Rating C

Contact Oswestry



Balmoral Crescent, Oswestry

Price: £215,000

This extended detached family home offers spacious and adaptable accommodation which is warmed by gas fired central heating and the property benefits from double glazing.

- 4/5 Bedroom (Potential Annex)
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Gardens
- Parking
- Gas CH & DG
- Current EPC Rating D

Contact Oswestry



Smithy House, Penybont

Price: £250,000

An opportunity to purchase a stone/brick built COTTAGE with a DETACHED ANNEXE. This property is well worthy of viewing to appreciate the character and charm throughout, gardens and annexe.

- 3 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Garage & Parking
- Annexe With Open Plan Living
- Semi Rural Location

Contact Oswestry

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Associated Office at Worcester 01905 611066



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CHRONICLE BUSINESS CLUB AWARDS 2013

BIG NIGHT ALMOST HERE

THE BIG night is nearly here when the best of the area's businesses learn who has won the major honours in the Oswestry & Border Chronicle Business Awards for 2013.

The event is being held by the Chronicle in association with Oswestry Chamber of Commerce and will be hosted by The Lion Quays Resort on Wednesday, May 1.

The Chronicle is bringing together businesses from our circulation area across Oswestry, Welshpool and the surrounding towns and villages to showcase all that is good about the region.

by Associate Editor Graham Breeze

Chamber happy to be supporting business awards

OSWESTRY Chamber of Commerce is once again delighted to be supporting the Chronicle Business Awards.

This annual event provides a fantastic platform for all us to celebrate some of the great business achievements that can be found right on our doorstep.

There can be no doubt as to the calibre of businesses that exist in the region and it makes absolute sense that we should celebrate those who have taken the time to enter the awards this year. Stiff competition, as always, means that not everyone can be a winner but we hope that everyone involved will take some benefit from the whole process.

It is often a great chance to take a step back from your business and consider all of the things in which you excel. We would like to wish good luck to everyone who has made it to the final stages and look forward to celebrating with you on 1st May at The Lion Quays.

Whatever the final outcome, please do take time to celebrate your achievement in coming this far and, perhaps more importantly keep doing your bit for the local economy. It has fantastic impact on everyone around you.

In the meantime, there is an open invitation to any local business who would like to find out more about Oswestry Chamber of Commerce and what it does for the local community. We are a vibrant chamber with a wide range of businesses on board.

So, whether you are a sole trader, a shopkeeper or a larger local employer we would like to invite you to our next meeting on Wednesday 8th May, from 6pm in The Wynnstay Hotel.

We always have a full and varied agenda and you are certain to see some familiar faces there and some new ones too.

HEATHER NOBLE

Chairman

Oswestry Chamber of Commerce

We have teamed up with the resort and the chamber to celebrate the rich resource of skills and people who thrive and prosper in today's challenging marketplace.

Whether employing a handful of staff or a workforce of hundreds; whether turning over thousands of pounds or millions of pounds; operating in a new service sector or a long established area of manufacturing, you came forward in numbers to tell us how good you were.

Scores of companies and individuals vied for places in this year's final and our panel of independent judges were impressed by the standard of entries.

Now all the lucky finalists, together with our sponsors and other representatives from the business community, will enjoy hospitality at the Lion Quays Resort when the winners will be announced and nine major awards presented.

Graham Breeze, The Chronicle's associate editor, said he was delighted that the resort had agreed to host the event and that the Chamber of Commerce was involved for the second year running.

"The Chronicle celebrated its second birthday in March and this partnership has emphasised the regard in which the newspaper is held by the business community," he said.

Success

"Our standing is reflected in the fantastic number of entries we received from the business community for our awards scheme.

"The economic climate may not be good but many businesses in our circulation area are thriving through innovation and determination and many have outstanding success stories to tell.

"Our gratitude goes to the owners and staff at the fabulous Lion Quays Resort for agreeing to host the annual awards ceremony again. We are delighted to be partnering with the Chamber of Commerce and the resort," he said.

"We are also indebted to our sponsors, Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors, The Lion Quays, Turner Peachey Accountants, The Pickstock Group, The Charlotte Hartly Foundation, Oswestry Chamber of Commerce, Aubrey Kirkham Funeral Directors and Morris Cook Chartered Accountants."

Lyn Pearson, marketing and events manager at The Lion Quays said: "We are pleased to be able to support and host the Chronicle Business Awards.

"This will be Oswestry's second major business awards event and holding it at The Lion Quays gives us the opportunity to showcase the outstanding facilities that we have available."

Tragic girl's brother to speak at event



Tristan Hartey of the Charlotte Hartey Foundation.

TRISTAN Hartey, of the Charlotte Hartey Foundation, will be the guest speaker at the Oswestry & Border Chronicle Business Awards presentation night.

Twenty-two-year-old Mr Hartey, a wealth manager at Applewood Associates and brother of the late Charlotte, will speak at the function at Lion Quays Resort on May 1.

The Charlotte Hartey Foundation provides funding to start-up businesses, youth clubs, schools and organisations.

The foundation was set up by Charlotte's family in her memory after she died tragically at the age of 16 in July, 2009 after being misdiagnosed with swine flu.

"We offer practical and financial support to the young people who need it most when starting up in business," said Mr Hartey.

Support

"We help develop key skills, confidence and motivation, enabling young people to fulfil their business dreams and potential," he added.

"We support young people aged 16 to 25 to work out if their business ideas are viable and whether self-employment is right for them.

"Depending on the outcome of this process, the programme can then offer financial support to start a business or secure goals in employment, education or training."

About 200 finalists, guests and sponsors will attend the glittering ceremony at the Lion Quays to see the best in local business honoured by The Chronicle.

CELEBRATE

With Lion Quays AWARD-WINNING SPA

Join Lion Quays Spa for an evening of celebration

Thursday, 9th May, 5pm – 8pm

Spaces are limited for this event, please register online now:

www.lionquays.com/celebratespa or call our Spa Team directly 01691 684300 [opt 3].

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Independent Retailer

Sponsored by Oswestry Chamber of Commerce:
Open to independent retailers exclusively, the businesses will be required to show how they have performed over the past 12 months ending February 1, 2013. They will need to demonstrate they have understood the need of shoppers and how they have responded; maintained high standards including first class customer service and shown commitment to the community; have displayed innovation that sets them apart from their competition.

Finalists
BBR Opticians Ltd,
Booka Bookshop,
Honeysuckle Wholefoods Co-operative

TWENTY companies and three individuals have been shortlisted for awards in the Oswestry & Border Chronicle Business Awards 2013. The awards are being staged in association with Oswestry Chamber of Commerce and will be hosted by the Lion Quays Waterside Resort on Wednesday, May 1.

An independent panel of judges sat to determine the finalists from the scores of entries received from across the Chronicle's circulation area. All the finalists will now attend the glittering dinner and presentation night when the winners will be announced.

Business of the Year

Sponsored by the Oswestry & Border Chronicle
The judges are looking for an established, successful business that has displayed an outstanding performance and become an example of best practice in the region. The winning company will combine inspirational leadership with a dedicated workforce, creative marketing with a smart use of new technologies, product or service innovation with a first class commitment to customer service.

Finalists
Applewood Wealth Management
Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors
The Gift Experience

Best Online Business

Sponsored by Morris Cook Chartered Accountants
Companies must have been operating since at least February 1, 2011 to enter this category. Businesses will need to show how they identified a niche in the market place, adopted a relevant marketing strategy, have installed a first class customer service policy and have plans for sustainable future development.

Finalists
GWR Fasteners Ltd
Siop Cwlwm
The Gift Experience

Best Small Business

Sponsored by Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors
The award will go to a small business, up to 10 employees, demonstrating a high level of success in its sector. It should be able to illustrate a competitive advantage and have plans for future expansion, including growing market share. Innovative, forward thinking and progressive are the most apt labels for the winner.

Finalists
Elegant Finishing Touches,
GWR Fasteners Ltd
Stonehouse Brewery Ltd

Community Champion

Sponsored by Lion Quays Waterside Resort
The judges are looking for a business that displays a real commitment to corporate social responsibility and can demonstrate the positive impact this has had on their neighbourhood. This may include staff working voluntarily on local projects and evidence must be given on how this benefited employees and the community.

Finalists
British Iron Work Centre
Cambrian Heritage Railways
RJAH Orthopaedic Hospital Foundation Trust



The Osfest team, from left, Carly Jackson, Sue Furse, Charlotte Gwynne, Emily Bajcer and Lucy Hamelet at last year's event

Young Business Entrepreneur

Sponsored by The Charlotte Harty Foundation
The judges are looking for an individual aged between 16 to 30 on February 1, 2013 who has been in business for a minimum of 12 months. Entrants will need to demonstrate that they have a robust marketing plan, have achieved a tangible level of success and can demonstrate a clear vision for future development.

Finalists
Gemma Manning-Bentley of Gemmipop Designs, Oswestry
Matthew Price of Price Electrical Ltd of Llanymynech
Sarah Rowlands of Purebeauty, Welshpool.

Young Business of the Year

Sponsored by Turner Peachey Accountants
Businesses less than five years old at February 1, 2013 can enter this category. They will need to demonstrate dynamic leadership, innovative product/service development and a robust marketing strategy, have achieved a tangible level of success and demonstrate a clear and deliverable vision for the future.

Finalists
Elegant Finishing Touches
GWR Fasteners Limited
Purebeauty Ltd

Customer Service

Sponsored by Aubrey Kirkham Funeral Directors
Businesses entering this category need to illustrate their commitment to, and achievement of, outstanding customer service. Everything an organisation does to win, satisfy and retain customers will be considered.

Finalists
Agritel Ltd
BBR Opticians
Stonehouse Brewery Ltd

Innovation Award

Sponsored by The Pickstock Group

This award is open to any company that has developed a new idea, product or way of operating which is completely different.

The judges will expect to see the impact this has had on the business performance, probably involving new technologies, and be confident of future plans.

Finalists
Derwas of Welshpool
Parry & Evans, Welshpool.

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CHRONICLE BUSINESS CLUB AWARDS 2013

The awards finalists at a glance

RJAH ORTHOPAEDIC HOSPITAL TRUST

The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (RJAH) is a leading orthopaedic centre of excellence. The specialist Oswestry hospital has a reputation for innovation and the Trust provides a comprehensive range of musculoskeletal (bone, joint and tissue) surgical, medical and rehabilitation services; locally, regionally and nationally.

The Orthopaedic hospital has been in existence as an independent hospital since 1900. It was taken into the NHS in 1948 and achieved NHS Trust status in 1994. The hospital was awarded NHS Foundation Trust status in August 2011.

CAMBRIAN HERITAGE RAILWAYS

The Cambrian Heritage Railways is a heritage railway company, trust and society based at Oswestry.

Formed after the 2009 merger of the Cambrian Railways Society and the Cambrian Railways Trust, it aims to reinstate the infrastructure required to operate trains from Gobowen to Llyncllys Junction and to Blodwel.

The project is expected to create 50 new jobs for Oswestry as part of the reconstruction and up to 100 full time jobs on completion as well as attracting up to 55,000 tourists every year.

BRITISH IRON WORKS CENTRE

The British Iron Works Centre in Oswestry demonstrates a passion for designing and redesigning fabulous new products, and bringing back to life many of the old and wonderful items of iron artwork that are no longer seen today.

The company has delved deeply to collect and recreate a huge range of stunning historical items, which would have been lost forever.

Over the years the centre has assisted many other companies and organisations, by providing them with artefacts, product and props.

THE GIFT EXPERIENCE

The Gift Experience has been established since October 2003 at Ellesmere and is a family run online business, offering quality gifts for every occasion conceivable with a great emphasis on customer service.

In today's modern society trying to find a special gift can be a time consuming, tiring exercise and therefore the gift experience provides you with the opportunity to choose that special gift from the comfort of your own chair.

LANYON BOWDLER SOLICITORS

Lanyon Bowdler is one of the most recognised firms of solicitors in Shropshire & Herefordshire, and is synonymous with excellence.

The firm prides itself on selling experience, expertise, know-how and results, offering a wide range of pricing options including Fixed Fees and Service Level Guarantees.

APPLEWOOD WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Applewood Wealth Management was established in 1992 and managing director Karl Hartley has developed a unique wealth management business model, using simple but powerful financial tools, to ensure all clients receive strong leadership, professional advice and first class service.

Applewood specialises in the management of the investment portfolios, pensions, tax and trust planning and has evolved primarily through client recommendations.

PARRY & EVANS

Parry & Evans is one of the premier paper recycling companies in the UK.

Although waste management has become a popular (and necessary) function recently Parry & Evans Ltd has been recycling paper and card board for over 50 years. Parry & Evans operates mainly in Mid and North Wales, Cheshire, Shropshire and Merseyside.

DERWAS OF WELSHPOOL

Derwas of Welshpool is a family run business which has been established for over 50 years in Welshpool. Derwas has not been afraid to evolve with the times, but still hold firm to the traditional key principles of friendly service and quality products.

The third generation family business was established in 1961 and has over 80 stoves and cookers on display with a huge choice of leading brands at competitive prices and an online shopping facility.

STONEHOUSE BREWERY

Stonehouse Brewery is a small, family run, microbrewery situated on the Cambrian Railway Line, in Oswestry, Shropshire where beers are brewed by hand, using the finest floor malted barley and carefully selected hops.

The brewing plant has recently been upgraded to 100 brewers barrels per week. All the beers are brewed by traditional hand crafted methods.

BBR OPTICIANS

BBR Opticians offers a full range of optometric services, including full eye examinations, the latest retinal examination technology, as well as a comprehensive contact lens examination and fitting service.

The team at BBR Opticians are able to help you with all your optical needs.

All of the services are designed to enable you to have the best possible vision in conjunction with your lifestyle needs.

AGRITEL

Agritel is a well-established specialist supplier of a wide range of industrial packaging products, including machine stretchwrap, hand stretchwrap, bubblewrap and shrinkfilm.

The company's aim is to provide top-quality industrial packaging products to the UK customer at the lowest possible prices. With the introduction of an on-line packaging shop customers can now buy many products online, saving time and money.

PURE BEAUTY

Pure Beauty is a modern Organic Beauty salon at Welshpool developed by Sarah Rowlands based on 10 years of knowledge from working in the beauty industry.

The business offers customers some of the best natural products in the industry today with a range of Organic facials designed to improve every skin condition.

All products are freshly prepared for each client promoting a completely active and fresh experience every time.

Clients can also hire the salon on special occasions such as hen parties, birthdays, baby showers etc.

GWR FASTENERS

GWR Fasteners was started in 2009 and the company prides itself on supplying quality fasteners for individual needs.

GWR is the only company in the UK that offers a unique service - coloured stainless steel fasteners available in black, blue, red, green and copper. The GWR Colourfast fasteners are coloured to order and delivered in seven to 14 days.

GWR pride themselves on supplying quality fasteners for individual needs and have an extensive stock holding and ensure are dispatched to wherever you are in the world.

The company also manufacture special fasteners and precision components.

ELEGANT FINISHING TOUCHES

Elegant Finishing Touches of Oswestry offer a wide range of services, including wedding and event planning.

Elegant Finishing Touches chair cover hire and chair sash hire for weddings and special events is focused on providing a high quality service and complete customer satisfaction.

The company provides bespoke chair cover and sash hire to all venue locations throughout Shropshire, Cheshire and across the UK, and can offer either a set-up service or delivery and collection service. Photo booths, chocolate fountains and popcorn machines are also available.

SIOP CWLWM

Siop Cwlwm was established in July 2010 and is owned and run by mother and daughter team Linda and Lowri Roberts.

They sell a wide variety of Welsh books, music, greeting cards, gifts and homewares, and clothes in Oswestry indoor market (Powis Hall) every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, or from their on-line shop.

Items, especially those produced by local designers, producers and craftspeople, are carefully selected.

Lowri is also a professional freelance Welsh translator, running the Trosti Tanat Translation business.

HONEYSUCKLE WHOLEFOODS CO-OPERATIVE

Established in July 1978, Honeysuckle Wholefoods Co-operative has become Shropshire and the Borders' leading independent retailer of vegetarian, natural and organic foods.

Honeysuckle celebrated 25 years as a workers' co-operative in 2002 and are proud to be one of the most successful examples of a co-operative working environment.

Operating strict buying policies the co-operative has an increasing portfolio of organic, gluten free and fairly traded products and promote wholesome and healthy eating and do not stock products with harmful additives or GMOs.

They work closely with local growers and also receive deliveries of imported and domestic produce and operate a comprehensive environmental policy, from using low energy light bulbs and renewable electricity, through to recycling waste cardboard, plastic, glass and compostables.

BOOKA BOOKSHOP

Booka Bookshop is an independent bookshop and cafe in Oswestry with a great selection of books, distinctive cards and gifts, and a cafe selling coffee, teas and delicious homemade cakes.

The book-buying experience has never

been so good and Booka host a regular programme of author talks and signings, organise themed events, run book clubs and work with schools and the local library.

Booka also operate an on-line shop with a hand-picked selection of great books and distinctive gifts themed to help customers find just what you're looking for.

GEMMA MANNING-BENTLEY

Gemma Manning-Bentley of Gemmipop Designs is an applied art graduate, specialising in jewellery and metalwork, with a love of all things crafty. Her shop can be found in Oswestry Indoor Market, and you can also find me in

The jewellery is produced in her workshop in Oswestry, Shropshire and she makes laser cut jewellery in any colour that you might fancy which is also available to purchase on-line.

SARAH ROWLANDS

Sarah Rowlands formed Pure Beauty - a modern organic beauty salon - in 2008 based on 10 years of knowledge from working in the beauty industry.

After competing in the Miss Earth Wales competition in August 2008, she learnt a lot about the beauty industry and the harmful effects it can have on health and the environment.

Following extensive research she wanted to offer customers some of the best natural products in the industry today and sells a range of organic products.

MATTHEW PRICE

Matthew Price established Priced Electrical of Llandrinio in 2011.

He formed close relationships with other young electricians and tradespeople and encouraged everyone to take on apprentices.

Working together as a team, sharing responsibilities and profits, the group members are all self-employed and Matthew now offers training course packages too.

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CHRONICLE BUSINESS CLUB AWARDS 2013

Oswestry Chamber of Commerce is once again delighted to be sponsoring the Chronicle Business Awards.

It's an excellent platform to celebrate the great business achievements right on our doorstep.

Good luck to everyone who has made it to the final stages!

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Staff from Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors gathered for the ceremony at last year's awards night.



Ian Glenister from Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors, presents the Best Small Business Award to the Stonehouse Brewery team at last year's awards night.



Jon Ollier from Turner Peachy presents the Innovation award to the team from GWR Fastners, Gary Robinson, Jude Robinson, Rhian Robinson, Bill Robinson and Jaqui Reynolds at the 2012 awards night.

Impressive venue will host awards

THERE COULD be no better venue to host the second **Oswestry & Border Chronicle Business Awards**, held in association with **Oswestry Chamber of Commerce**, than at the **Lion Quays Waterside Resort**.

Boasting luxurious individually-designed bedrooms, a five-star country club and award winning spa the **Lion Quays** is a renowned hotel and wedding venue on the **Shropshire/North Wales** border alongside the **Llangollen Canal**.

What sets **Lion Quays** spa apart? It has the UK's first **Snow Cave**, the UK's first **Declor Spa Shop** and a dedicated team of professionals, offering a diverse range of treatments to name a few reasons why **Lion Quays Spa** is different.

Relaxation

The new-generation thermal suite, with snow cave, experience showers and ice bucket, hydrotherapy Jacuzzi pool, starlit livello steam room and saunas offers guests a unique spa journey enjoying both warm and cold experiences.

Guests also have a choice of relaxation lounges, including an outdoor terrace overlooking the surrounding countryside, with complimentary fruit, herbal teas and water available throughout the day.

Spa Lounge is an exclusive area for guests only and offers a variety of drinks and nibbles, from morning snacks to champagne, afternoon teas and healthy smoothies to cocktails.

What else does the resort offer? Well imagine a choice of restaurants – from a family-friendly traditional waterside restaurant & bar, to an intimate contemporary brasserie with outside dining terrace.

The Waterside bar and restaurant serves great British and European classics with a modern twist.

Choose from slow cooked pork belly, poached fillet of sole, fillet steak and desserts to tempt all.

While **Nico's Brasserie** offers a more



The impressive frontage to the Lion Quays Spa.

relaxed dining experience, with modern international dishes as well as a selection of lighter options.

Join the club – **Lion Quays Country Club** is different, offering an exclusive range of lifestyle and fitness options enabling you to get the most from your leisure and relaxation time.

There's a mix of world class facilities

with a team of experts on hand to provide you with inspiration, motivation and fitness plans to suit your own personal goals.

Members have been sending in their inspirational stories, sharing their personal triumphs.

It seems the **Country Club Membership** is much more than a simple gym

membership, it's more a lifestyle! Visit www.lionquays.com/inspirationalclub-members and find your inspiration.

Whether you're going to **Lion Quays** to celebrate your wedding, dine al fresco in our choice of restaurants, attending a conference, to work out in the gym, visit the country club or relax in the spa, you'll be glad you did.



Inside the Thermal Suite at the Lion Quays Waterside Resort.



The Lion Quays Waterside Resort on the Llangollen Canal.

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**NEW - NO CHAIN**

- A rare opportunity to purchase a Grade II Listed Mill which has been sympathetically converted to create a spacious home. The property boasts excellent views over its own Mill Pond and the countryside beyond
- Through careful design and craftsmanship the current owners have created spacious and modern living accommodation which preserves the character of this iconic building and retains a host of original features including a working water wheel and some of the original workings
- Outside the property has picturesque gardens set around the extensive Mill Pond which provides an idyllic backdrop for this stunning property

Hindford
Whittington

£495,000

**NEW**

- An early nineteenth century Grade II Listed Detached Country residence together with Gardens and grounds of about 3/4 acres.
- The approach is over a sweeping driveway with a large gravelled parking and manoeuvring area to the side of the property. This property offers substantial period accommodation and has the potential to further create a most impressive family home.

- Entrance Hall, Drawing Room, Cloakroom, Utility Room, Kitchen, Dining Room, 6 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, Cellar and Large outbuilding (former dairy). EPC Rating G

Ardlelen
Nr Welshpool

£354,995



- A most comfortably appointed and spacious Modern Detached Residence only twelve years old, built to very high standards
- Storm Porch, Large Reception Hall, Cloaks, Study, Spacious Lounge, Sitting Rm, Dining Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, First Floor Landing
- Master Bedroom & Guest Bedroom (both en-suite), Two Further Double Bedrooms, Family Bathroom
- LPG gas central heating, high security double glazing, intruder alarm, double garage & ample parking on a sweeping gravelled driveway. EPC Rating D

**NEW - NO CHAIN**Whittington Road
Gobowen

£179,995

- A spacious Detached Family Property set in large gardens situated on the edge of the popular village of Gobowen within walking distance of amenities and the train station
- Ent Hall, Lounge, Dining Rm, Kitchen, Utility and Bathroom together with 3 Bedrooms and a Family Bathroom on the first floor
- Outside the property has large gardens to front & rear, a large concrete driveway which provides ample off-road parking & access to the garage. EPC Rating D

Old Mopsis Way
Morda

£199,950

- A most comfortably appointed and spacious Detached House
- Lounge, Dining Rm, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Rm, Large Conservatory
- 4 Bedrooms, En-Suite Shower Room 7 Family Bathroom
- D/G, Gas CH, security system, cavity wall insulation
- Integral garage, delightful gardens and grounds
- Views over Shropshire countryside

Milars Field
Morda

£139,950

- A well positioned and most comfortably appointed Mid-Terrace Residential House, just over five years old offering generous accommodation on a well planned layout.
- Principally includes: Entrance Hall, Large Sitting Room, Kitchen/Dining Room, Three Excellent Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, En-Suite Shower Room
- Double glazing throughout, Gas central heating, a delightful paved garden and sun patio to the rear, parking for two cars. EPC Rating C

Croeswylan Lane
Oswestry

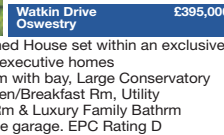
£349,950

- A most comfortably appointed & spacious Detached House
- Wide Entrance Hall, Cloaks, Sitting Rm, Dining Rm, Study
- Snug, Kitchen/Breakfast Rm, Rear Lobby/Utility, 4 Bedrooms
- En-Suite shower & Family Bathroom
- Large Attic Room currently used for recreational purposes
- Gas C/H, double garage, patio & delightful gardens to rear
- EPC Rating E

Watkin Drive
Oswestry

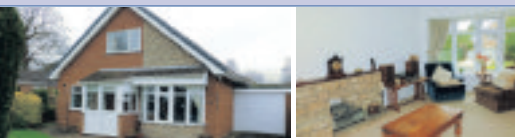
£395,000

- A most impressive and spacious Detached House set within an exclusive and spacious development for only five executive homes
- Reception Hall, Guest Cloaks, Sitting Rm with bay, Large Conservatory
- Separate Dining Rm, Study, Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast Rm, Utility
- Gallery Landing, 4 Bedrooms, Shower Rm & Luxury Family Bathrm
- Gas C/H, D/G, delightful gardens, double garage. EPC Rating D

Llanrhaeadr Ym
Nr Oswestry

£275,000

- A wonderfully positioned & spacious Detached House
- On the outskirts of the village of Llanrhaeadr
- Entrance Hall, Sitting Rm, Dining rm
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room/Utility, Cloaks
- 5 Double Bedrooms (1 En-Suite Bathroom)
- Study/Occasional Bedroom, Family Bathrm
- Oil C/H, car parking. Outstanding views
- EPC Rating E

**NO CHAIN**Berwyn Drive
St. Martins

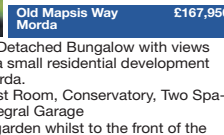
£189,995

- A spacious and well appointed 2/3 Bedroom Detached Dormer Bungalow located close to the centre of the popular village of St Martins.
- Kitchen, Living Room and Bathroom together with a Dining Room which alternatively could be used as a ground floor bedroom.
- On the first floor are two further spacious Bedrooms. Externally the property benefits from a good size garden, garaging and off-road parking.
- uPVC double glazing throughout, uPVC gutters and fascia boards and gas fired central heating. EPC Rating D

Old Mopsis Way
Morda

£167,950

- A spacious and comfortably appointed Detached Bungalow with views over open fields to the rear situated on a small residential development on the edge of the popular village of Morda.
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Conservatory, Two Spacious Bedrooms, Shower Room and Integral Garage
- The property also has a good size rear garden whilst to the front of the property is a tarmac driveway with ample parking for two cars. uPVC Double Glazing and Gas C/H. EPC Rating D

Brynhafof Drive
Oswestry

£385,000

- A most comfortably appointed Detached Four Bedroom Property with Annex, set in one of the premier locations in the town
- Hall, Lounge, "L" shaped Dining Rm, Kitchen/Breakfast Rm, Utility
- Balcony Rm, Master Bedrm, 2 further Double Bedrooms, Family Bathrm
- Annex with Sitting Rm, Kitchen/Dining Room, Bedroom & Shower Rm
- Majority D/G, Gas C/H, Dble garage, large store area, wine room & garden rm
- Lawned and terraced gardens with wide driveway to fore, easily maintained & spacious garden with borders to rear

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Suzuki has further extended its VAT-free campaign which now includes four of its stylish small car models – Alto, Splash, Swift (except Sport) and SX4 compact crossover.

This latest offer helps customers take advantage of a cost-effective way to buy a new car with the added benefit of low cost of ownership too.

By popular demand, Suzuki is also continuing its flexible personal contract purchase offers until the end of June. Alto SZ3 is available for a deposit of £885 followed by 49 monthly payments of just £109 with the option to pay a final balloon payment of £2,352 at the end of the agreement to keep the car.

Alto offers very low cost of ownership with no annual road tax to pay thanks to emissions of 99g/km, combined fuel consumption of 65.7mpg and an insurance group rating of 4E.

Splash

Moving up the small car range to the Splash SZ2 1.0-litre, the latest PCP offer requires a low deposit of £995 followed by 48 monthly payments of £129 and an optional final payment of £2,471.

The good news also continues again for Swift buyers with the SZ2 three-door at £8,999 available for a deposit of £159 followed by 42 monthly payments of £159 and an optional final payment of £3,535. The five-door SZ2 is also available for £159 per month but with a slightly higher deposit of £639 required.

At the top of the Swift range, the award-winning and highly-equipped 1.6-litre Sport is also included in the low-rate Driveplan PCP offer and requires a deposit of only £1,409 and 42 monthly payments of £239.

The SX4 models have now joined the VAT-free campaign with 1.6 SZ3 2WD available for £10,495 representing a customer saving of £2,100. SX4 offers a combination of SUV



Campaign also has benefit of low cost ownership

and passenger car styling within a compact body and is equipped as standard with six airbags, air conditioning, four electric windows and an MP3 compatible CD tuner with eight speakers. The 4WD 1.6-litre model is now available for £13,249 which represents a saving of £2,650.



Large windows make the Fiat 500 very light and spacious inside

Have fun with urban cool

The Fiat 500 is designed with one thing in mind: having fun while driving.

Perfectly proportioned and impossibly good-looking, the new Fiat 500 is a modern remix of the original. Those classic circular headlights and those slick, shiny handles.

Make any journey cheerful – even in British weather. Large windows and SkyDome glass roof fill the Fiat 500 with light, while 14 body colour choices, chrome, stickers, nine types of wheels and more mean your Fiat 500's look is

all up to you. The Fiat 500 is full of surprising little details.

The vintage steering wheel and wheel valve caps are pure retro.

Details

A whole world of colour choices means you'll look good long into the future. And thanks to its body-coloured dashboard, it has all the urban cool you need.

From little details to big ideas, everything about the Fiat 500 is designed to make for a very smooth ride.

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sion, a sophisticated climate system and ultra-comfy seats, and life on board feels pretty great.

The Fiat 500 might look like a pretty compact package, but you'll find that its ergonomic, cleverly designed seats are a very comfy place to be.

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Stepping into the Fiat 500 is like stepping into an interior designer's dream house – it's airy, spacious and bright.

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On the Road

Boosting skills of young drivers

Learning to drive is a tricky business. That moment when you gently release the clutch pedal and realise that you're moving under your own steam for the first time can be one of the most exciting – and daunting – feelings of your youth.

The part of the brain used for hazard perception doesn't develop fully until around the age of 25, so young drivers may not be giving the little things their full attention.

Intriguing

Driving school Red has designed an intriguing new set of e-learning tools to try to 'train' that part of a young driver's brain to more readily recognise potential dangers.

Called the Red Road Brain Trainer (RRBT), the company says that, as part of the wider 'Get Road Reddy' scheme, it should better prepare a young driver for the real world of driving.

Ian McIntosh, CEO of Red, believes there are gaps in the driving education system that need to be filled.

"Scientific research has shown that the part of the brain that assesses risk and anticipates danger is still developing when a young person is learning to drive," he says.

"This can result in risks not being readily identified and a lack of focus from the driver."

"Get Road Reddy aims to develop the risk assessment abilities of young people through providing Red's learners with direct access to interactive e-learning tools."

"The campaign aims to highlight the



Red driving school uses advanced software to aid learner performance

need for young people to 'road train their brain' as well as their hands and feet during the learning-to-drive period so that they really are road ready."

It is common for a learner to want to spend less on lessons and take their test sooner, but there are reasons to avoid doing this; not least the £62 re-test fee.

According to Red's research, gained during the development of the software when it was tested at Cranfield University, learners who used the online modules were 14 per cent more likely to pass at the first or second attempt than pupils who stuck to the standard system.

"The modules were designed with young people in mind and cover areas

including how to deal with in car distractions such as music, technology such as mobile phones and other passengers," explains McIntosh.

"It is designed more to make drivers safer and more competent than simply being able to pass a test on the day."

"It is fundamentally about training drivers to be better and safer post-qualification but it also helps them to pass their test."

"Having gained experience through RRBT, it might just save their lives when such a situation occurs for real."

"RRBT can never replace real experience but it is crucial to help drivers in their first year of driving in order to reduce the accidents that occur."

Tracker saving money

Stolen vehicle recovery expert Tracker is helping its customers save money and improve their journeys with the launch of My Tracker.

This new offering gives Tracker Locate customers online access to real time information on their vehicle from anywhere in the world, in addition to benefiting from Tracker's award-winning SVR protection.

As the cost of motoring continues to rise, many motorists will want to monitor the expenses related to their vehicle.

The My Tracker Dashboard provides a summary of information on the total distance and time travelled, and fuel consumption, helping to establish any areas where money can be saved.

These reports can then be viewed monthly over a 12 month period – allowing for detailed analysis on where costs can be saved.

Environmental concerns are also addressed with the CO2 emissions of a customer's vehicle available within My Tracker's reports.

My Tracker also helps alert owners to where a car is going and when it is being used.

The country's toll roads do not have majority support of the motoring public

Government not trusted over cash from toll roads

More than nine in 10 motorists do not trust the Government to reinvest money made from tolls on new roads, according to a survey by the Institute of Advanced Motorists (IAM).

Overall, 91 per cent of drivers in the survey made such an assertion, while 60 per cent of motorists do not support toll roads and 79 per cent of motorists would not support the introduction of tolls on existing roads.

However, 40 per cent of motorists would back more expensive tax discs instead of charging tolls on roads. The study also found that 41 per cent wouldn't support toll roads even if other types of tax were reduced.

Motorists were divided on using toll roads. Some 47 per cent of motorists said they don't plan their journey to deliberately avoid using toll roads while 44 per cent do.

How those proportions change when

drivers are faced with a choice between the two while travelling is not reported.

The IAM does report that motorists feel strongly about toll roads in their local area, with 56 per cent of respondents saying that they would use rural or local roads to avoid toll charges if such a levy was enforced on their local motorway.

High

IAM chief executive Simon Best says: "The cost of motoring is currently at an all-time high, and it's clear that the idea of bringing in toll roads has no support among everyday motorists."

"A toll on motorways, our safest roads, may force motorists on to more dangerous rural roads to save money."

"The Government has a very hard job ahead to convince drivers that tolls are the only way to deliver new roads and improve existing ones. Only by reducing other motoring taxes can this policy gain the support of the motorist."

Rybrook backs MoT campaign

A nationwide campaign to help motorists reduce MoT failures has been launched, backed by Rybrook BMW in Shrewsbury and 5,545 other manufacturer main dealers across the UK.

Research from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) indicates that around 1.5 million MoT failures each year could be avoided if motorists notify the dealer of simple problems with the vehicle before the annual roadworthiness test is carried out.

In the biggest campaign of its type, Rybrook Shrewsbury – one of 5,545 manufacturer main dealers across the UK – will give guidance to BMW owners across the region on the simple pre-MoT visual checks they can carry out on their own car.

Best

Taking just a 'Minute Or Two', the 10-step checklist will take BMW owners through a series of quick-and-easy checks – from headlights and tyres to windscreen wipers and fluid levels. By forewarning the dealership of any required work in advance of the MoT, motorists can then give their vehicle the best chance of passing the test first time around.

The full 'Minute Or Two' checklist can be viewed at www.passmymot.co.uk, where visitors can also use a garage finder tool to locate Rybrook Shrewsbury on Battlefield Road.

"The message that we are keen to get across to motorists is that an MoT fail could very easily be avoided if a simple visual check is carried out beforehand," explains Gareth Thomas – dealer principal.

"Technicians at manufacturer main dealerships across the UK are ready and willing to help vehicle owners carry out the visual inspection before the test, and to rectify any issues before conducting a manufacturer-guaranteed MoT.

"With the introduction of a number of new additions to the annual MoT test just last month, it is even more important for vehicle owners to understand the advantage that a few simple checks could make to the outcome of their test. Indeed



Research shows that around 1.5 million MoT failures a year could be avoided



A few simple checks on your car at home can help you avoid an MoT fail

we would encourage the simple checks to be conducted regularly between MoT tests to ensure the vehicle is safe."

For more information on carrying out the 'Minute Or Two' checks, visit Rybrook Shrewsbury on Battlefield Road, Shrewsbury, or call 01743 467467.

The 'Minute Or Two' checklist:

1) Headlights and indicators

Check that all of your car's lights function properly – headlights, sidelights, rear lights, hazard lights and indicators.

2) Brake lights

Press the brake pedal and ask a friend to check that the rear brake lights come on – including any supplementary brake strip light. Alternatively, carefully reverse up to a reflective surface (window, wall or garage door) and look behind to see for yourself.

3) Number plate

Make sure that the number plate is clean and legible – even a quick wipe with a cloth can make a difference. The font and spacing of letters must also comply with legal requirements to be passed by the MoT station.

4) Wheels and tyres

Check that wheels and tyres are undamaged. The minimum legal tyre tread depth is 1.6mm and any tyres with less than this will be marked as an MoT 'fail' (though it's recommended that tyres are changed when tread reaches 3mm). If you're in doubt about how much tread is left on a tyre, your local manufacturer main dealer can check for you. The dealer can also advise on the type of tyre that is right for your car if a replacement is required.

5) Seats and seatbelts

The driver's seat should adjust forwards and backwards and all seatbelts should be in good, working order. Test movement of the seat and inspect the seatbelt's full length for damage. Tug sharply on all seatbelts to check that they react as they're supposed to if you have to brake severely.

6) Windscreen

Check the view out of the front of the car for damage – any damage larger than 40mm will cause a 'fail', as will any damage wider than 10mm in the 'swept' area of the windscreen in front of the driver.

7) Windscreen wipers

Make sure your wipers are able to keep your windscreen clean – any tears in the wiper rubber can be an MoT fail.

8) Screenwash

Top up the washer bottle before taking the car in for a test – something as simple as an empty container can cause an MoT fail.

9) Horn

Give a short blast of the horn – if it doesn't work, your dealer will need to repair or replace it.

10) Fuel and engine oil

Make sure your car is filled with enough fuel and engine oil – you can be turned away from the MoT without suitable levels of either, both of which are required by the dealership when running the car to test its emissions levels. If you are unsure about the type of oil that should be used, ask your manufacturer main dealer.

● Note: When checking fluid levels and handling parts that could become hot to the touch (eg bulbs), it is safest to ensure that the vehicle has had an opportunity to cool down fully.

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62 Plate	F10 520d M Sport Saloon N47 2.0d	£41,540	£31,950	£9,590
62 Plate	F10 520d SE Saloon N47 2.0d	£33,395	£27,950	£5,445
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On the Road

Extensive range in Peugeot showrooms

Peugeot dealerships have an extensive range of models that include hatchbacks, saloons, SWs, people carriers, crossovers, compact MPVs, coupé cabriolets and sport coupés, plus a comprehensive four-model van range.

The most popular model is the Peugeot 208, launched in the summer last year and already a UK sales success as a 'top ten' performer in January, now with over 28,000 orders received since launch in the UK and some 300,000 already produced.

With a stylish design, low CO₂, great performance and outstanding economy, there is the imminent prospect of luxurious and performance models coming soon in the form of the new 208 XY and the eagerly awaited 208 GTi.

The latest 208 model is the 208 Intuitive which comes with Park Assist system as standard to take the hassle out of parking. With the press of a button, it can measure and guide the driver into a parking space, taking control of the steering to accomplish a perfect manoeuvre, alerting the driver to any likely incidents too.

Peugeot director of marketing, Morgan Lecouper said: 'Bearing in mind the 208 Intuitive can park itself, comes with satellite navigation and a glass panoramic roof, it is luxury at a great price. The Park Assist system provides easy parking, less chance of a bump and is good fun to use too.'



Peugeot dealers have some great deals on a range of models

The 208 Intuitive is now in UK showrooms, with a choice of three engine variants – a 1.2-litre VTi 82 petrol, 1.4-litre HDi 70 and 1.6-litre e-HDi 92 diesel – with prices starting at £14,245 for a 3-door VTi.

Buyers can also benefit from Peugeot's unique and highly popular 'Just Add Fuel' offer which has recently been extended to include 21-year-old drivers. Just Add Fuel provides three-years' servicing, roadside assistance, warranty, road tax and insurance all for one monthly fixed payment fixed over three years. Improved and with variable inputs, Just Add Fuel prices remain very competitive and it is now possible to get

a brand new Peugeot 208 1.0-litre VTi Access from just £159 a month.

Just Add Fuel Offers include: 107 three-door Active 1.0-litre – £139 per month (with a £1,640 deposit); 208 three-door Access 1.0-litre VTi 68 – £159 per month (with a £1,531 deposit); 208 three-door Access 1.0-litre VTi 68 – £208 per month (21-year old with a £1,569 deposit); 308 Access 1.4-litre VTi 120 – £239 per month (with a £1,965 deposit); 308 CC Access 1.6-litre VTi 120 – £345 per month (with a £3,087 deposit); 3008 Allure 1.6-litre VTi 120 – £259 per month (with a £3,096 deposit) and 5008 Allure 1.6-litre VTi 120 – £279 per month (with a £3,646 deposit).



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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the range of Kia models shown are: Urban 33.6 (8.4) – 80.7 (3.5), Extra Urban 53.3 (5.3) – 94.2 (3.0), Combined 44.1 (6.4) – 88.3 (3.2). CO₂ emissions are 150 – 85g/km. 7 year / 100,000 mile manufacturer's warranty. For terms and exclusions visit kia.co.uk or see your local dealer. Price, Revo score and number of reviews correct at time of going to press and specification is subject to change without notice. Models shown: Picanto 'City' 1.0 @ £8,995 On The Road (OTR), including customer saving of £1,250; Rio S-Dr '2' 1.25 @ £11,995 On The Road (OTR) including £1,400 customer saving and excluding optional metallic paint at £445; cee'd '1' 1.4 manual @ £13,500 OTR including customer saving of £900 and excluding optional metallic paint at £465. OTR price includes VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and Vehicle First Registration Fee. Retail customers only. Subject to availability on vehicles registered between 02 April and 30 June 2013. *4.9% APR available on Kia Conditional Sale on all models. 10% minimum deposit required on cee'd models only. Maximum term of 36 months. Offer not available in conjunction with any other offer. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. 18's or over. Guarantees / Indemnities may be required. Kia Motors Finance RH1 1SR. We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers. We may receive a commission from them for the introduction. Customer savings vary by model derivative. Ask your dealer for full details. †£99 insurance applies to the Kia Picanto 'City', Rio '2', cee'd Sdr '1' and cee'd Sportswagon '1' and is available from Kia Motors Insurance Services for drivers aged 21–80. Subject to standard underwriters terms and acceptance criteria. Eligibility criteria for this offer also applies; go to kia.co.uk/insurance for full details. The £99 offer is restricted to a maximum premium of £1,500. For any premium over this amount, the customer must pay the difference. Kia Motors Insurance Services is arranged and administered by Equity Direct Broking Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority, FSA Registered Number 490061.

Smaller Mercedes has proved that the cynics were just wrong

By Iain Dooley

In the four-door coupe market, Mercedes has form. When it was launched, the original CLS prompted much head-scratching from the press and was dismissed by many as little more than a glamorous sideshow. Oh, how wrong they were.

For buyers seeking E-Class levels of road presence but wanting something more eye-catching than a traditional saloon, the CLS delivered in spades and was bought in droves. So, how do you expand the appeal of something like the CLS? Simple, you build a smaller one and call it the CLA.

Seeking to cause the same disruption in the compact executive saloon market, the CLA's aim is to add some much-needed glamour and, crucially, encourage younger buyers to embrace what's often viewed as an older person's brand.

Key to the CLA's appeal is that it doesn't look like a conventional Mercedes. Displaying similar design cues as the latest generation A-Class at the front and a pleasingly shapely rear, the car's appearance blends visual appeal with the ability to slice through the air more efficiently than your average small saloon.

Rakish looks and the CLA's coupe-like profile aside, the car is different mechanically from your average Mercedes C-Class in that it's front-wheel drive.

This bucking of the premium market trend continues with power coming exclusively from four-cylinder engines – petrol and diesel – including a four-wheel drive AMG version.

UK buyers initially get a choice of a 1.6-litre 122-horsepower petrol motor badged as CLA 180 and a 2.1-litre 170-horsepower CLA 220 CDI diesel unit. Launch specification is a six-speed manual transmission for the former and seven-



The Mercedes CLA offers a choice of 1.6-litre petrol or 2.1-litre diesel engines



The largely A-Class-influenced cabin fascia works well on the CLA

speed direct-shift automatic for the latter. The CLA is a two-trim range – Sport and AMG Sport – boasting comfort and sport suspension set-ups respectively.

The reality is a car that, despite being a fraction longer than a C-Class, feels surprisingly compact on the road.

The largely A-Class-influenced cabin fascia works well, especially the generously dimensioned central colour display and familiar switchgear, and there's enough room up front for two adults to sit comfortably. In the back, it's not quite the compromise you might first think.

Granted, headroom is modest for all the obvious reasons, but there's enough legroom for adults if the journey is short, yet there's plenty of space for a small but growing family. Space isn't an issue in the boot – all 470 litres of it – and there's the double bonus of folding rear seats.

Funky looks and reassuringly high levels of real-world practicality notwithstanding, the car's also got to drive well.

In front-drive guise, the CLS delivers a solid performance on a wide variety of road surfaces. The difference between comfort and sport set-ups is noticeable, although it's good to know that the latter doesn't disgrace itself on poorly surfaced urban roads.

The lack of pitch and roll when travelling at speed plus above-average levels of cabin refinement can be credited to the car's well-sorted chassis and class-leading aerodynamics respectively.

And in diesel guise, a choice likely to be popular with company car drivers, the combination of low noise and ample pulling power help cement the CLA's engaging driver-focused appeal.

For the UK, Mercedes is pitching the CLA as a youthful alternative to conventional compact executive models.

As such, there's a predictable sporty theme extending past the car's model names; 18in wheels are the default size for

Bumper to bumper

Mercedes-Benz CLA 220CDI Sport. Range from £24,355
Engine: 2.1-litre diesel unit developing 170bhp.
Transmission: Seven-speed direct shift automatic transmission, driving the front wheels.
Performance: Max 142mph, 0-62mph 8.2 seconds.
Economy: 62.8mpg.
CO2 Rating: 117g/km.

both trim levels along with sports front seats and a chunky three-spoke steering wheel.

The icing on the cake is the car's polished road manners, which do much to banish any idea that it's a car that's abandoned substance for style.

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Official government fuel consumption figures in mpg (litres per 100km) for the new E-Class range: urban 20.9(13.5)-68.9(4.1), extra urban 37.7(7.5)-68.9(4.1), combined 28.8(9.8)-68.9(4.1). CO2 emissions 230-109 g/km.

* Annual mileage for the New E 220 CDI SE is 10,000 miles. Credit Acceptance Fee payable with first payment. Quotations are based on a 3 year PCP at 10,000 miles per annum. All quotations are subject to approval and vehicles must be ordered between 01.04.2013 and 30.06.2013 and registered before 30.09.2013, subject to availability. Excess mileage charges apply. Amount of dealer deposit allowance dependant on model. All finance examples are 36 months and subject to the acceptance and purchase fees. Finance available from Mercedes-Benz Financial Services UK Ltd, MK15 8BA. Model images shown for demonstration purposes only. Finance subject to status. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Offer is correct at time of going to print April 2013.

It's all good news from award-winning dealer

Arthurs Vauxhall, the award-winning car dealer with branches in Oswestry and Newtown, has been awarded a trophy by Vauxhall in recognition of its new car sales in 2012.

Managing director Nigel Williams said: "We are very pleased to be given this reward in recognition of selling more new cars in our area than any other car brand."

"A special thank you to all our customers for making it possible to be number one."

"This is an exciting time for both Arthurs and Vauxhall with the new Mokka being launched last November. This model has been very well received and currently demand is outstripping supply with some dealers unable to supply for many months."

Batch

"Fortunately, we ordered a large batch of cars at the time of delivery so we have the Mokka model coming through at a steady stream. Furthermore, a few weeks ago, the exciting new ADAM was launched. The initial reaction to this model is phenomenal."

Next up is the Cascadia model which is due to be launched on Friday, April 19. Martin Hayes, Oswestry sales manager, commented on what a fabulous looking car this is and how he forecasts it will increase Vauxhall's sales even further.

At nearly 4.7 metres in length, the full size, four-seat, fabric-roof Cascadia convertible is longer than an Audi A5 Convertible. It is also the first full-size convertible designed, engineered and man-



Arthurs of Oswestry sales executive Grant Dodsworth prepares for the 'Whitewash' used car promotion over the weekend of April 20 and 21

ufactured by Vauxhall since the 1930s.

Nigel continued: "The new Cascadia will be on display in our Oswestry and Newtown showrooms from Friday, April 19. Anyone who is interested in a model in this sector will be extremely impressed and they are most welcome to have a demonstration, although it would be appreciated if they could arrange an appointment beforehand."

The Oswestry branch of Arthurs Vauxhall celebrates 20 years in Lower Brook Street this month and invites all customers, old and new, to call in over the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, April 20 and 21, for some light refreshments and to enter a grand draw.

Jonathan Jones, who has worked for Arthurs for over 35 years said: "I can't believe how quickly

the last 20 years has flown by. We enjoyed a great time when we were in Smithfield Street, but the business has grown massively since moving to Lower Brook Street to the point where we are starting to look to move to larger premises within the next few years."

"Many of our customers have been with Arthurs for a large number of years and their custom is very greatly appreciated by all of our team. We strive to give everyone a really great service which is recognised by Vauxhall as we have won many awards for customer satisfaction."

Arthurs Vauxhall is building on the positive momentum by participating in a national Network Q used car event from Friday, April 19 to 29.

Steve Hughes, Newtown general sales manager said: "This Network Q used car event will allow us to generate more used car sales. The event will be held at both of our branches, Oswestry and Newtown."

"There will be subsidised personal contract purchase deals available during the event which is based around 'good things come in threes'."

Steve explained that the three centrepieces of this event will be: Used cars available on PCP at very competitive rates; £500 towards the initial deposit on selected cars; and the chance to win back the value of the car.

Building on the momentum even further and to complement the offers from the Network Q used car event, Arthurs Vauxhall is planning a major 'Whitewash' used car sale event where special deals will be available on all used cars at Oswestry and Newtown from Friday, April 19 to 29. Martin Hayes said: "We had originally planned this event over the Easter weekend, but with the weather conditions being so poor we thought we would

postpone it and have a sale combined with the Network Q used car event."

"In addition to great part-exchange prices there will also be some low-rate finance deals available. Unfortunately, our team has eaten the Easter eggs we bought for the original sale so we will have to buy some more chocolates for this event – for the children of course!"

During the period of the Network Q and Arthurs Whitewash used car event, Arthurs will be offering all their ex-demonstrators at cost prices.

Martin said: "Arthurs is very proactive in refreshing its demonstrators at regular intervals so if there are customers who are looking to save a lot of money on a new car, this is the time to benefit."

"Many of our ex-demonstrators have a high spec so it results in a lot of car for the money. With our ex-demonstrators, we are also offering low-rate finance and of course the cars come with the Vauxhall Lifetime 100,000 mile warranty."

Nigel Williams says he hopes as many customers as possible will come to the 20-year celebration in the Oswestry showroom on April 20 and 21. We are always pleased to see our customers and this would be a great opportunity to re-acquaint ourselves with customers who have drifted off to other makes and who have perhaps not viewed the modern range of cars produced by Vauxhall.

"They are supported by the unique Vauxhall Lifetime 100,000 mile warranty which has already brought many customers to the Vauxhall family from other makes. However, this weekend and the used car event are about both branches, so please may I ask all our customers to pop along to either the Oswestry or Newtown branch."

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VAUXHALL

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excl. Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 76.3 (3.7), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 20.6 (13.7) - 85.6 (3.3). CO₂ emissions: 324 - 88g/km.

Available on selected models only, at participating retailers. Refer to www.vauxhall.co.uk/offers or contact your local Vauxhall retailer for details. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantee / Indemnity may be required. Finance supplied by either Vauxhall Motor Finance RH115R or Vauxhall Finance, PO Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. *24-60 month term, excluding ADAM models (24-48 month term). Offer will apply to private individuals. Vauxhall Partners and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only, excluding B2B supported units). All other customers are excluded. Vauxhall Lifetime warranty covers lifetime ownership of first registered keeper, 100,000 mile limit. Terms and conditions apply. †Corsa £1995 customer deposit (after deduction of Vauxhall contribution) followed by 60 monthly payments of £149. ‡Astra £2841 customer deposit (after deduction of Vauxhall contribution and customer saving) followed by 60 monthly payments of £179. Astra shown includes brilliant paint, optional at extra cost (£250). Offers available on orders or registrations before 1 July 2013. We can introduce you to a limited number of finance providers, commission may be received.

Local Tradesmen



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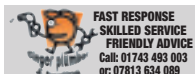
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Deaths



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Shena
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A much loved Mother, Grandmother and Friend.

Service at Shrewsbury Roman Catholic Cathedral on Friday, April 19, 2013, at 12.15pm.

Followed by Cremation.

Family flowers only, donations if wished to Cancer Research UK, for which purpose a collection plate will be provided at the Cathedral.

Inquiries please to

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Funeral Director
95, Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6BD
Telephone: 01743 244644

ROBERTS

Elizabeth Ikin

Passed away peacefully on March 20, 2013.

Much loved Wife, Mother, Grandmother and Sister.

A Service of Celebration of Elizabeth's life will be held at Pentrebychan Crematorium, Wrexham on Wednesday, April 17, at 2pm.

No sombre clothes or faces please.

No flowers by request, donations if desired to Cophthorne Cickers Heart Support Group and British Red Cross.

All inquiries to
DAVID DAVIES & SONS
1 Upper Church Street
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Telephone 01691 653116.

WILDBLOOD

John
Of Morda.

Passed away peacefully on Sunday, April 7, 2013.

Funeral details to be announced once finalised.

All inquiries to
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Acknowledgements

DULSON

Frederick John

Menna, Julie and the Family wish to express their sincere thanks to all Relatives, Friends and Neighbours for all the cards, letters and kind messages of sympathy, love and prayers received on the loss of such a dearly loved Husband, Dad and Grandad. Also for the generous donations received to date at £500, which are to be divided between The Weston Rhyn Welsh Presbyterian Chapel and The Erdig Ward at The Wrexham Maelor Hospital.

Special thanks to the Reverend Glyn Jones and Reverend David Owens for the lovely Service and to Doctor Gwyn Evans for playing the organ. Also thanks to W E Price Funeral Directors for their kindness and professionalism.



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NEWS

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Miserable now? Club plays tunes of gloom

PUT ON your sad rags for a night of gloomy tunes at a venue in Oswestry.

Gloom 2, subtitled 'Hinterland', will be held at Ironworks, in Church Street, tomorrow, Friday from 8pm.

There will be music played from John Foxx, Neu and Kraftwerk to Japan, Cabaret Voltaire, Boards of Canada and Depeche Mode.

There will also be a detour through Berlin's musical backwaters and the output it inspired from the likes of David Bowie, Brian Eno and Lou Reed.

Kate Clarke spokeswoman for the event, said: "Having stumbled upon an unlikely gap in the entertainment market 'Gloom' returns with another dose of downbeat beats and low-energy lighting to mark the end of the financial year.

"It's moodier than a teenager who has forgotten to pack their spot cream and phone charger for the family holiday."

The event costs £3.

Member joins

A ROTARY club in Oswestry has welcomed a new member.

Ian Slipper is the seventh new member to the Oswestry-based Borderland Rotary Club this year and has been welcomed by club president Michael Tomley.

Call for action over parked cars blocking narrow lane

CALLS ARE being made for parking restrictions on a narrow Oswestry road amid fears that parked cars are making it impossible for emergency services to reach the area.

Fed-up residents of Llys Lane say they want a permit system to be set up to stop thoughtless motorists blocking access.

The seven residents' calls have been backed by town councillor Gareth Jones who lodged a notice of motion at a town council meeting on Wednesday, April 3.

In his motion, Councillor Jones called for the town council to support residents in making a recommendation to Shropshire Council that Llys Lane, off Middleton Road, be designated for residents car parking only, with permits provided.

His motion added: "This is on the basis that seven houses are involved that have five cars requiring access on a very narrow lane which is often blocked by parked vehicles thereby obstructing the highway and making it dangerous for access by emergency service vehicles."

Obstructed

Councillor Jones told fellow councillors: "It is a single track lane and the residents are obstructed by cars parking there to go to the nearby surgery or across to Sainsbury's."

Councillor Chris Schofield backed the motion and said the lane used to be governed by double yellow lines.

Councillor Heather Bickerton said: "What annoys me is that people seem to think they can just park anywhere."

Councillor Romer Hoseason said: "Parking has been a problem down there for a long time."

"It is difficult to deliver to the houses because of the number of parked cars cluttering up the footpaths and the road."

"If you ever wanted to get a fire engine down there you would have a problem."

The town council agreed to ask Shropshire Council to make the lane a resident only parking area.

Work to start on sport pitch

WORK IS soon to start on a £400,000 hockey pitch at an Oswestry school.

Oswestry School says it will be available for the community to use as well as its own pupils.

Building work, which is expected to take 15 weeks to complete, will start on April 22. It will see the creation of a 6,300m sand-dressed synthetic grass hockey pitch and includes earth modelling, fencing and flood-lighting.

School spokeswoman Suzanne Bellis said the project was an 'exciting initiative' and would allow around the year hockey.

She said: "We are very excited about it and the work are starting later this month. "It is fantastic for the school and for the community. It will help promote hockey at the school and will be used by our students as well as students from visiting schools."

"It will be also available to the community by contacting the school and booking it," she added.

Nine saddle up to ride tandem



Jonathan Roberts, Dave Hughes, Andrew Lawson, Anna Breeze, Rob Oliver, Julie Oliver, Darron Humphreys, Jakob Humphreys and Ben Oliver.

A MAN from Oswestry and eight of his friends plan to take part in a 24-hour sponsored cycle ride - on a tandem bike.

Darron Humphreys wants to cycle non-stop around Lake Vyrnwy and Bala Lake for 24 hours to raise cash for The Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital's Bone Cancer Centre Appeal.

The event will take place on April 27, starting at noon at Lake Vyrnwy and finishing the following day.

Mr Humphreys' friends, who are taking part with him, are all from the Oswestry area and include Anna Breeze, Rob Oliver, Julie Oliver, Dave Hughes, Andrew Lawson and Guy, Owen and Stu Jones.

"There are two tandem bikes and nine of us taking part. We are all good mates and it should be great fun."

For more information, or to sponsor the nine fundraisers, visit www.justgiving.com/teamtandemdarron2013

Comedian returning to village for show

A COMEDIAN is returning to a venue on the Shropshire/Wales border.

Mervyn Stutter will make a re-appearance at Trefonen Village Hall with his new show Easy Shop Rider on Saturday.

He is an actor, comedian, scriptwriter, satirical songwriter and has performed at the Edinburgh Fringe every year.

He has also worked on radio, television, in theatre and cabaret and knows how to tell stories and sing songs, poke fun at himself and the Baby Boomer generation.

A spokesman for the event said: "His sometimes wicked but always affectionate sense of humour brings warmth and joy to an audience that is happy to laugh both at his life and their own."

Tickets for the show are £8 to include nibbles and are available from Val Smout on (01691) 657011.

The fun gets under way at 7.30pm.

Woodland event

PEOPLE who love the outdoors were able to investigate birdsong and other sounds of the woodland at an event in Llanymynech Heritage Area on Sunday. The event was organised by Oswestry Hills Wildlife Watch group.

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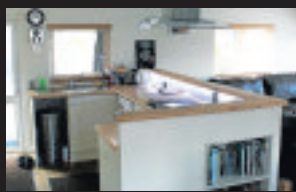
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NEWS

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NEWS

in brief

Hairdresser set to do marathon

A WOMAN from Shropshire will be running the London Marathon to raise money for the Oswestry Bone Cancer Centre.

Debbie Braddick, 43, trains with her friend Amanda Arnold, who is also helping to organise a Zumba disco to boost her fundraising appeal.

The event will be held at the Corbett School in Baschurch on Saturday, from 2pm to 4pm.

Debbie, who lives in Ruyton-XI-Towns and runs the Cabello hair studio in Frankwell, Shrewsbury, took the plunge to do the London Marathon after running half marathons. Disco tickets from (01743) 355392. To sponsor Debbie, go along to the hair salon.

Body found near aqueduct named

THE body of a man found at an aqueduct on the Shropshire border has been named.

Gary Roberts, 66, from Coed-Richard, in Acrefair, was found by police on March 27 at the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, in Trevor near Llangollen.

His death is not being treated as suspicious.

Coroner John Gittins said that a postmortem examination suggests the death could have been caused by drowning and multiple injuries. The inquest was adjourned and a date is to be fixed.

Tree planted in honour of town's famous daughter

A TRIBUTE has been installed in Oswestry's showpiece public park to one of the town's most famous daughters.

A dedication ceremony to author Barbara Pym was held at Cae Glas Park with a cherry tree planted in the Booker Prize-nominated writer's memory.

The author, who died after a battle with breast cancer in 1980, aged 66, wrote a series of novels such as *Some Tame Gazelle*, *Less Than Angels* and *A Glass of Blessings* during the 1950s and 1960s.

She was regarded as one of the most under-rated writers of her time.

Although the author is not as well known as other Shropshire writers such as Wilfred Owen, AE Housman and Mary Webb, she has a huge following in America where her books are acclaimed by critics.

The ceremony was attended by civic dignitaries including John Abram, High Sheriff of Shropshire, who performed the ceremony and the Rev Simon Thorburn who gave the dedication.

The Mayor Councillor Martin Bennett and members of the town council were also in attendance.

Councillor Bennett said: "It is important that we recognise Barbara Pym and her work in Oswestry."

"She was described as an under-rated writer and was nominated for a Booker Prize. She was born in 1913 so we are approaching the centenary of her birth."

by Graham Breeze

Mr Abram said: "I think it is important to celebrate one of Oswestry's most famous old girls."

"Shropshire should be proud of her and so should Oswestry in particular."

Members of the Barbara Pym Society also attended the ceremony.

Former chairman Kate Charles said: "We are delighted Barbara Pym is being recognised."

"It is particularly appropriate to have a tree planted because one of books was called *A Few Green Leaves*."

The tribute follows the unveiling of a plaque last year at the author's birthplace in Willow Street in Oswestry.

The plaque unveiling came after years of campaigning by enthusiasts and hopes are high the latest ceremony and tree planting will also serve as a lasting tribute to her memory.



Kate Charles, Mayor Martin Bennett and High Sheriff John Abram.

Picture: Peter Shah

History's hidden treasures discussed

PEOPLE are invited to attend the next meeting of Oswestry & Border History & Archaeology Group.

It will be held in the Memorial Hall tomorrow (Friday) from 7.30pm.

Shelagh Hampton will be talking on the subject Drowned, dumped or deliberately deposited: some archaeological discoveries from Shropshire and their find spots.

It will cover 'structured deposits' of the later prehistoric period in Shropshire, for example items which have been deliberately buried, probably for ritual purposes. Many of these have been recovered from rivers, lakes and bogs.

For more information, visit Oswestry Library or www.pastcaring.com/OBHAG which also features a gallery of photographs of some of the group's excursions.

To get involved in the group's activities, call the membership secretary on (01691) 690184.

Dance called off

A POPPY Appeal dance in Oswestry was postponed on Saturday. The event was due to have taken place at The Pedigree, in Shrewsbury Road. But due to illness the event has now been delayed until July 27. Call (01691) 679260.



LEE
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Of Hely Cross Residential Home, on September 1, 2011, aged 72 years, formerly of Sunnyfields, Bell Lane, Shrewsbury.

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NOSTALGIA & NEWS

01691 668094

Comradeship vital to band's success

by Toby Neal

IN this final extract from the memories of 83-year-old John Pugh, who played in the George Riley Band which was a central part of the dance band scene in Oswestry area for many years, John tells how he met his wife came to leave the band after 15 years – although he has continued a lifetime of music.

I used to take Rusty Roberts, the singer, in my very first car, a Ford Eight. Rusty and myself used to be great friends and he always used to travel in my car. I've lost touch with him.

Being in the band was great, absolutely great, with the comradeship, and with the hundreds dancing.

I met my wife at the Garrison Theatre at Park Hall, where we were the resident band.

Painful

We used to travel from Oswestry station through to Tinkers Green station at Park Hall, which no longer exists.

We must have met on the train, I would have thought.

Unfortunately she died two years ago. She had an unusual name – Dorothy Woolf.

I'm sure there were lots of jokes and she used to say it was painful in primary school.

She was from Trefonen.

We went on holiday once up north



John used to give the band's singer Rusty Roberts, pictured here, a lift in his Ford Eight.

roughly by the Lake District and it was amazing because there were quite a few with that surname.

Why did I leave the band?

I think I had got a family by then and secondly I had some dental problems – I had some teeth out.

George Riley knew then I had given up playing but persevered and came along after a fortnight and said "Are you going to play again?"

I still play with the Porthywaen Band and occasionally conduct them. I joined them in 1942, so that's 71



A lifetime of music – John Pugh.

years. I founded the youth band, training so many players. I got the MBE for that.

"Of those from the George Riley Band still alive, there's a drummer from Ellesmere, John Timms, and there's Frank Williams, who lives in The Avenue, Knockin, and he was my best

man. Then there's Rusty, and Barbara Parry, who was one of the singers, and that's about it.

• Mr Pugh was awarded the MBE in the New Year's Honours List of 1996 for services to Porthywaen Silver Band.

Musical people invited to open day

PEOPLE who want to learn a musical instrument or are looking to pick up the hobby again are invited to an open day.

Porthywaen Silver Band is holding the event in its band hall in the village near Oswestry on April 20 from 10am until 4.30pm.

There will be beginners brass and percussion workshops, followed by a concert by the Beginners Band from 10am until 1pm.

At 1.30pm there will be a brass and percussion workshop and at 4.30pm a concert will be performed by the youth/training and senior bands.

Porthywaen Youth and Training Band recently entered five categories in the Oswestry Youth Music Festival and came away with four first places and a second place.

A spokesman for the band said: "We would like to thank the organisers of this great annual event. It is a fantastic opportunity for the young musicians of the area to showcase their talents."

Porthywaen Silver Band has four bands ranging from the beginners through to the Senior section and Competition band.

The spokesman said: "We are always looking for new members to come and join us."

For more details visit www.porthywaenband.co.uk

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FEATURES & NEWS

01691 668094

Seed of a big idea for local produce

YOUNG AND old are invited to Oswestry town centre to plant vegetables including carrots, tomatoes, lettuce, beans and peas.

A seed sowing event will be run by Incredible Edible, a group which has been set up to encourage local food growing as part of Plant A Seed Day.

It will take place on Bailey Head this Saturday from 10am-2pm.

Free seeds, pots and compost will be provided and experienced gardeners will be on hand to demonstrate and help people.

Everyone will be allowed to take their seeds home so they can have some home-grown produce later in the summer.

A spokesman for the event said: "Incredible Edible aims to establish community gardens, encourage home-growing of food in the smallest of spaces such as pots and balconies, and make use of surplus produce at times of plenty, plant public areas with edible and insect-friendly plants, and compile a list of volunteer gardeners.

"Other planned activities include setting up a tool bank, holding an Apple Day in October, and organising a Footfall display in an empty shop window."

For details call Anne Hendrie on (01691) 659773.

Jo nets dream job despite life-changing experience

DESPITE going through a major life-changing experience Jo Lawson has managed to secure her dream job.

The 31-year-old is a lecturer in foundation learning, functional skills and skills for working life at Walford and North Shropshire College. It is a role she has had for six years, working with young people over 16 with learning difficulties. "It is a lovely job," she said. "I teach them things including money management, drama, cooking, job skills and CV writing."

"It is loads of fun. I love working at the college. Teaching is my life. The people I work with are fantastic."

She is one of the lucky few who have managed to get into the job they have always wanted. And she did this as well as recover from a climbing accident when she was 23 years old.

Jo, originally from the Bristol area, was climbing when she slipped and fell in 2004. "I had a spinal injury," she said. "I was totally paralysed from the waist down. I slipped and fell while I was climbing with a group of friends."

"I knew straight away that I had been paralysed as I couldn't feel my legs."

Positive

"I was rushed to hospital and spent nine months there. I had to learn how to live again."

"I was young when I had the accident. I was 23 years old."

She moved to a bungalow in Oswestry designed for people with spinal injuries.

"I think after the accident I didn't know what I was going to do," she said.

"It was a big adjustment. It wasn't easy to make an adjustment to life in a chair, but you have to be positive."

Instead of letting herself get down she decided to remain positive and went to Walford and North Shropshire College to look at the courses they ran.

She left hospital in 2005 and in 2006 started studying to become a teacher.

While she studied she also worked volun-

WOMEN OF SUBSTANCE

with Chrissy Symmons



arily as a teacher assistant at the college, and qualified as a teacher assistant with a degree in 2008.

"I was really lucky to get a job at the college, to be doing something and enjoying doing it," she said.

"I have always loved working with people with learning difficulties. It wasn't until my accident that I went to the college to look for courses."

It was while she was at the college that she met her husband who she married two years ago. Jo is now pregnant but says she will be returning to work when the baby is older.

While she was a teacher assistant her colleagues were so impressed with her work that they nominated her for a national award for carrying out her role.

She beat thousands of people across the country to reach the finals in London.

Jo said the key to life was to stay positive.

"Be positive, experiment and find out what you enjoy," she said. "Don't give up."



A traumatic accident didn't stop lecturer Jo Lawson from landing her dream job

Mother's business initiative honoured

A MOTHER who launched her own business so she could spend more time with her newborn son has been nominated for a top award.

Helen Jones launched Baby Sensory Shropshire last year after deciding she did not want to go back into full-time work following the birth of her little boy Tobey.

Just a year after launching the sensory classes, aimed at newborn babies up to 13 months, she has now been nominated for one of the categories in the What's On 4 2013 Junior Awards.

The Junior Awards have been supported by ABC Magazine and celebrate the best activities, classes, volunteers and venues from across the UK.

Mrs Jones, 31, runs classes to help babies' sensory development through activities and play in Oswestry and Shrewsbury.

She was nominated for an award in the Most Outstanding Activity Leader for the Under-5s (West and Wales) category by parents and parents-to-be and will now go through to the national voting stage.

She said "I am so pleased to have been nominated. Working with beautiful babies is so rewarding. I am extremely grateful to everybody that voted for me."

The winners will be announced by TV celebrity host Lucy Piper on June 30.

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FEATURE & NEWS

01691 668094

Boost to councils who help patients

BODIES representing patients across Wales will be strengthened following a review of the role of Community Health Councils.

The review of the functions and role of Community Health Councils (CHCs) suggested more can be done to ensure they operate effectively and efficiently to make the best use of the talents and resources available.

Health Minister Mark Drakeford said: "One of the underlying themes emerging from the Francis Inquiry is making the voice of the patient heard."

"A major advantage we have in Wales is we still have Community Health Councils. Wales is unique within the UK in this respect. My focus now is to make sure CHCs are working in a way which serves the people of Wales as well as possible."

"The Welsh Government has set out a range of actions to strengthen the role of CHCs, to provide a consistent level of service across Wales and to ensure they are representative of communities."

"I would like to thank members and staff of CHCs for their continuing work on the reconfiguration of health services. I know this is not always easy, but their work is recognised, valued and necessary to help put in place the safe and sustainable services we all need."

Spring is the season for the birds and the bees

FLOWERS, buds, birds and bees. That is what spring is, amongst other things, famous for.

But the birds and bees overlap slightly at this time of year and the reason is the flowers and buds. Both bumble bees and honey bees have seen alarming declines in the UK recently.

Causes range from disease to agricultural practices, pesticides and invasive species but whatever the causes what we do know is that bee numbers are in rapid decline and some species are on the verge of extinction.

The science speaks for itself and since it is clearly a combination of man-made perils that our bees face, it is our moral obligation to remove those threats.

And for those people who cannot see sense in protecting wildlife for any other reason than that it might benefit our own species, given that bees are responsible for pollinating most of our crops, the loss of them could be a national disaster.

By planting flowers bees love in our gardens and by raising awareness of their plight, we can all do our bit to protect the future of the bees in this country but you may well also be helping other animals too; birds.

As temperatures take a tentative step up the thermal ladder this week, both birds and bees start making the most of the flowers in our gardens.

Bumblebees 'rev' up their bodies and flight muscles before engaging our daffodils and snowdrops, whilst on the feathered side of things, small garden birds such as Blue Tits also flock to our increasingly vibrant borders.

ON THE WILD SIDE with Ben Waddams



April is a fickle month. This is a problem in that it is the month that most creatures begin mating and raising their brood. If the cold weather returns, it can be disastrous, not just for any young animals, but for their parents that have expended so much energy in rearing them this far.

Blue Tits however have a trick up their sleeve. Whereas it may take a whole day to rummage around various pockets of their territory in search of insect food to sustain them in tough times, as soon as spring has sprung, that challenge is lessened slightly – even if snow returns, this industrious little birds can weather it out by turning their attention to flowers.

Buzzing

There are a few plants that put out buds and flowers even in the coldest spells leading up to and into spring. Species such as Mahonia and the pussy willows, bear large buds and winter flowers.

Indeed the other name for Mahonia is 'Winter Sun'. Blue Tits can rely on these plants for sustenance throughout early spring until insect life is once again buzzing around.

It has been estimated that if a bird spends just three hours out of its day feeding off the nectar of such shrubs, it has gained the equivalent energy of an entire



Blue Tit in Snow, acrylic on board, by Ben Waddams.

day's insect probing. The plants can hardly complain about the situation for they gain another pollen-carrying agent to ensure their own future.

So although the plight of our honey and bumble bees is far from certain, there is at least help on hand for some of the

plants that may suffer from further demises in their population.

Why not help out your local Blue Tits by installing a nest box? Visit the Fair in the Square, Shrewsbury, this Saturday where you will find a range of boxes, all hand-made locally.

Firms are thanked over 999 workers

BUSINESSES across Shropshire who release employees to attend 999 calls have been praised by the fire service.

Keeping many of the county's 23 fire stations open throughout the day is dependent on the goodwill of employers who let staff leave work when an emergency call comes in.

Brian Welti, watch manager at Baschurch Fire Station, said rural businesses in particular were often small, so it was a big commitment to release staff.

Speaking at a recent meeting of the Five Perry Parishes local joint committee, Mr Welti said Baschurch Fire Station was currently up to full strength.

"We must thank the latest employers, Church Road Garage in Baschurch and the Prescott Riding Stables, for releasing our firefighters."

"Like other local employers their help means that Baschurch fire engine has a 99.8 per cent availability."

Most of the county's fire stations are retained, meaning the firefighters combine their everyday work with responding to emergencies.

There are some firefighters able to respond during evenings and weekends only, if they work away from their home fire station, and others who respond daytime only if they work in the town or village but live away.

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GIG GUIDE

01691 668094

Gloomy night out's not for faint hearted

GIG GUIDE

with Edward Roberts



STATE OF the country got you down? Need cheering up? If that's the case then Gloom at the Ironworks isn't for you.

The event that celebrates wallowing in woe is back on Friday night for another depressing dose of Electronica and low energy lighting, to perpetuate those winter blues.

Subtitled 'Hinterland', Gloom will take you on a one way descent through music's darkest landscapes.

Expect sinister sounds from the likes of Kraftwerk, Cabaret Voltaire and Depeche Mode, before being transported to the grey streets of Berlin via the work of Lou Reed, Brian Eno and David Bowie.

Described by The Ironworks as being 'Oswestry's worst night out', Gloom is not for the faint of heart or those with a cheery disposition.

The gig starts at 8pm with tickets costing £3. For more info contact 07751 160576.

If you're looking for a more cheerful way to spend your Friday night then head over to the Lowfield Inn, Mar-ton, where Paul Wallis and Sam Neath will be performing.

With his vintage Fender Stratocaster, Paul Wallis is considered one of the finest blues guitarists in



Sam Newth and Paul Wallis.

Shropshire. Sam handles backing duties with his trusty acoustic guitar, with both taking care of the vocals.

The pair play a variety of covers ranging from the music of Mark Knopfler to Jimi Hendrix, with some slide guitar and harmonica thrown in for good measure.

The gig starts at 8pm and it's free entry. For more info contact 01743 891313.

If you're looking for live music in the Welshpool area, Dai Robs will be making a return to the Royal Oak Hotel on Friday.

The Mid Wales based singer-songwriter will be performing tracks from

his forthcoming record as well as some unique takes on old classics.

His first single 'Waiting for You' released in 2011 was featured on BBC Radio Wales as their single of the week.

Influenced by a variety of singer-songwriters, his music is also tinged with funk and soul which sets it apart.

The gig starts at 9pm and is free entry. For more info contact 01938 552217.

If you have an ear for classical music then you may be interested in the Guilsfield Singers Spring Concert, which takes place on Saturday.

The concert will feature Schubert's Mass in G as well as pieces by Monteverdi and Parry.

The programme will also have music from the Maldwyn Strings who will also be accompanying the Guilsfield Singers.

The concert starts at 7.30pm with tickets costing £8 for adults and £4 for under 16s.

Ticket sales will go towards helping local charity Montgomeryshire Emergency Doctors and can be obtained from Welshpool Jewellers or by ringing 01938 590809.

Comedian Mervyn Stutter will be making a return appearance at Trefonen Village Hall on Saturday with his new show 'Easy Shop Rider'.

The multi talented comedian is a main stay at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and has worked in television, radio and theatre.

Tickets for the evening are priced at £8 and include refreshments, they are available from Val Smout on 01691 657011.

The show starts at 7.30pm.

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THE ARTS

01691 668094

Picasso's muse creates exhibition of her work



Lydia Corbett, a former muse of Picasso, now exhibiting her work at Qube Gallery.

ARTWORK created by a woman who was painted by Picasso in the 1950s is on display in a gallery in Oswestry.

Qube, in Oswald Road, has more than 25 pieces of Lydia Corbett's art pieces in its exhibition which opened last week. Trustees of the gallery travelled to Devon to meet the artist and bring back the pieces which she had handpicked for the event.

The exhibition will be in the gallery until May 6 from 9am until 5pm and 9.30am until 12.30pm on Saturdays.

by Graham Breeze

Tonia Parry, from Qube, said: "We put up the pieces this week and it took all day. There are 27 pieces up in the gallery including four ceramic pieces."

"There is also a DVD of Lydia's story for people to watch, postcards to buy and lovely posters."

When Lydia was 19 years old she met Picasso in France and he asked her to come to his studio to sit for him, which she did for several months in 1954.

In return Picasso became her inspiration and she has now become an

artist and has seen her work exhibited across the globe.

The 78-year-old, who used to be known as Sylvestre David, saw Picasso produce more than 40 pieces based on her likeness and she was known as the Girl With the Ponytail.

To celebrate the exhibition Qube is holding two workshops. The first will be a talk on Picasso at 3pm on April 26. The second, on April 27 from 10am till noon, will be a charcoal and paint workshop for people to learn how to create art using some of the materials that Lydia uses.

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MARKETS

01691 668094

Welshpool livestock market**April 8**

OTMS (35)

An entry of 35 Over Thirty Month Old Cattle sold to average 138ppkg for the 16 older cows sold, 153ppkg for the 11 younger cows, 159ppkg for the bulls, and 192ppkg and 172ppkg for the steers and heifers respectively.

A Friesian cow topped the sale at £1175.30 she weighed 805kg and was sold by GM & PE Jones & Son Maesderw. GM & PE Jones also sold a younger Friesian cow to £1337.92. A British Blue cow weighing 738kg sold for £1158.66 from D Jones Broadway. A Friesian heifer under 48 months of age weighing 698kg sold for £1221.50 from E E Powell & Son Cilpentre.

GM & PE Jones Maesderw received the Briarwood Products Ltd prize of £25 for the highest price older cow sold on the day.

We will be holding a sale for TB tested over 30 month cattle from Monday, April 8 at 9am in ring 2.

For any further information on this section please call the market on 01938 553438 or auctioneer Glandon Lewis on 07774 224999.

FAT CATTLE (10)
Ten fat cattle sold to average 233ppkg for the steers and 241ppkg for the heifers. G Bound & Son Cefn Bach presented four fat Limousin heifers, selling to 269ppkg, 260ppkg, 256ppkg and 250ppkg. Evans Brothers Tynewydd sold three heifers to 244ppkg, 239ppkg and 230ppkg and a steer to 233ppkg. G Bound & Son Cefn Bach receives the Briarwood Products Ltd prize of £25 for the highest price per kilo animal sold on the day.

Weekly sale of fat cattle every Monday commences at approximately 12.30pm. More fat cattle urgently required to meet a very strong demand from potential purchasers.

If you have require any advise or wish to sell fat cattle at the market please contact the auctioneer Mr Glandon Lewis on 07774 224999 or the market office on 01938 553438.

PRIME HOGGETTS (6148)
An entry of 6148 Prime Hoggets, sold to an overall average of 211.76ppkg.

Super Lights (17.5kg to 25.4kg) (53) to 190ppkg from T H Roberts Bryndreiniog. Average of 189ppkg.

Lights (25.5kg to 32kg) (261) to 216ppkg from G Thomas North Moelygarth. Others to 208ppkg from D G Jones cefnir Fawr. Average of 179ppkg.

Standards (32.1kg to 39kg) (608) to 228ppkg from T D Jones & Co The Bryn. Others to 227ppkg from H M Powell & Son white House. Average of 203ppkg.

Mediums (39.5kg to 45.5kg) (2805) to 242ppkg from Lythwood Sheep Ltd. Others to 228ppkg from A S Hopley Kingsleigh Farm. Average of 215ppkg.

Heavies (45.1kg to 52kg) (1591) to 217ppkg from R E Evans & Son Dinnant. Others to 216ppkg from Lythwood Sheep Ltd. Average of 202.5ppkg.

Over Weights (Over 52kg) (618) to 198ppkg from Lythwood Sheep Ltd. Others to 194ppkg from CJ & LM Davies Lawns Farm. Average of 182ppkg.

SPRING LAMBS (354)
An entry of 354 spring lambs, selling to an overall average of 245.9ppkg.

Lights (37) to 273ppkg from H W Venables Penygelly Farm. Others to 261ppkg from G, JL & RW

Pritchard Penysarn. Average of 246ppkg.

Standards (233) to 273ppkg from R Gittins Henfaes. Others to 271ppkg from Coleg Powys. Average of 244ppkg.

Mediums (70) to 266ppkg from R Gittins Henfaes. Others to 263ppkg from Ben Powell Gilfach y Rhwi. Average of 251ppkg.

Heavies (9) to 238ppkg from D S Jerman Gwernau. Others to 235ppkg from D Evans & Co Manor Farm. Average of 233ppkg.

Over Weight (2) to 200ppkg from D S Jerman Gwernau.

The Spring Lamb Show and Sale took place at Welshpool on Monday 8th April 2013. Many Thanks to Wynnstey Group Plc, Carrs Billington, Bibby's Agriculture Rikki Lloyd, Shropshire and Montgomery area Suffolk Club and The British

Charollais Sheep Society for kindly sponsoring the event. The Judge was Mr Peter Tomlinson Llanfyllin.

Results of the spring lamb show and sale were:

Class 1 (up to 36kg)
1st & Overall Champion. Lot 138 J A Gwalchmai, 5 Minyffordd.

2nd Lot 198 G, JL & RW Pritchard Penysarn.

3rd Lot 125 BE & BE Langford Lletymbeion.

Class 2 (over 36½kg)
1st Lot 145 Coleg Powys.

2nd Lot 199 G, JL & RW Pritchard Penysarn.

3rd Lot 141 NC & AGM Davies Penysir.

Class 3 (Suffolks up to 36kg)
1st Lot 133 D C Jerman Ty Gwellt.

Class 4 (Suffolks Over 36½kg)
1st & Champion of the Suffolks, Lot 154 EG & AW Pugh Cefn.

2nd Lot 151 J & J Beavan Winsbury Farm.

3rd Lot 152 J & J Beavan

Winsbury Farm.

Class 6 (Charollais over 36½kg)
1st Lot 136 D S Jerman Gwernau.

2nd Lot 148 N Oughton Lymore.

3rd Lot 138 Ben Powell Gilfach y Rhwi.

CULL EWES (2256)
An entry of 2256 cull sheep on offer for sale today, sold to average £53.79 for the ewes and £79.44 for the rams. Top price of the day for the ewes was £123 per head from P R Evans & Son Fachwen. Top price for the cull rams was £160 per head from L E Brymer Griffiths & Co Bryneira. Weekly sale of cull sheep to immediately follow the sale of fat lambs at about 12noon.

STORE LAMBS
An entry of 250 store lambs achieving an average of 41.25. Theave lambs achieved a top price of £66 from S Lane New Hall. Mixed and Clean lambs achieved top price of £65 from D O Jones & Son Tyddyn. Top lambs achieved a top price of £40 also from S Lane New Hall. Mixed and top lambs achieved a top price of 446 from DW & SE Richards Rhalit.

An entry of 130 cade lambs achieved an average of £10 selling to a top of £27 from D R Owen & Sons Sandilands.

EWES & LAMBS
An entry of 120 ewes with lambs at foot. Suffolk as found ewes with twin lambs at foot achieved a top price of £155 from Bronhyddon Farms Ltd.

DAIRY COWS
A catalogue entry of 10 dairy Cows sold today. The trade was steadier that of late. Top price on the day was £2010 for a 2nd calver Pendyffryn Marksman Linda from J R Wilkinson Dyffryn Farm Meifod. Three 3rd calver from M R

Williams Wern Holdings sold for £1500, £1400 and £1260.

Three heifers from T G Phillips & Co Burgedin Farm achieved £1950 £1600 and £1230.

Next catalogue sale of Dairy cows will take place on Monday, April 22. If you have any dairy cows you wish to sell please call auctioneer Richard Evans on 07764 663192 or the market office on 01938 553438.

FORTHCOMING SALES:
Monday, April 15, Sale of Cows and Calves.

Thursday, April 18, Sale of Pedigree Charollais Cattle.

Monday, April 22, Sale of Dairy Cattle.

Monday, April 29, Sale of Cows and Calves.

Tuesday, April 30, April Store Cattle Fair.

Monday, May 6, Sale of Dairy Cows, Cows & Calves and Prize sale of Couples.

Monday, May 13, Cows and Calves.

Tuesday, May 14, Store Cattle.

Thursday, May 16, Sale of Pedigree Limousin, Simmental, Salers and Charollais Cattle.

Saturday, May 18, Machinery Sale at Coed y Dinas.

Monday, May 20, Cows and Calves and Dairy Cows.

Monday, May 27, Cows and Calves.

Tuesday, May 28, Store Cattle and Weanlings.

Oswestry cattle auctions**April 3**

FAT CATTLE: (57)
Not many about but probably the dearest cattle yet for the quality on offer. Ninety per cent of the bulls friesian and only a handful of handyweight butchers cattle on offer. Top slots hit a record of 272p for heifers 253p for Steers and 229p for

Bulls. Highest price in the

steer was £1574.00 for a Sump. Bottom book of 150p for a lean friesian bull. An overall market average of 203.5p was achieved

Young Bulls (21) Overall Average 185.5p.

Light Bulls (2) Average 159.5p (£690/head) Selling to 168p from Bronhyddon Farms

Medium Bulls (11) Average 181p (£900/head) Selling to 215p from C E Evans Lower Hendre

Heavy Bulls (8) Average 195.5p (£1140/head) Selling to 229p from J M Edwards Lower Morton Farm

Steers (19) Overall Average 211.5p.

Medium Steers (5) Average 228p (£1235/head) Selling to 253p from D T Jones Gelli Farm

Heavy Steers (14) Average 206.5p (£1305/head) Selling to 246p from P L Harrison Neuaddlwyd

Heifers (17) Overall Average 216p.

Light Heifers (1) Selling to 172p (£550/head) from J M Edwards Lower Morton Farm

Medium Heifers (3) Average 228p (£1020/head) Selling to 254p from W Hughes & Son Waen Farm

Heavy Heifers (13) Average 216p (£1180/head) Selling to 272p from P L Harrison Neuaddlwyd

An excellent trade throughout, but a shortage of lambs at foot especially the handyweight smart butchers cattle which are a flying trade. Thank you for your continued support.

FAT LAMBS: (4)
Standards to 240p, Mediums to 230p

FAT HOGGETTS: (2461)
A very good show of hoggets on Wednesday 3rd April 2013.

The quality on offer was of a high standard and this was well reflected on the

trade. The overall average

was 210p/kg.

There were two very good consignments of 200 sheep averaging 231p/kg and 227p/kg, 220 light hoggs levelled at 181p/kg with the top of 190p/kg from R Roberts Hafod Farm with 29.5kg hoggs at £56.00. 319 standard hoggs averaged 196.5p/kg with the top of 244p/kg for 34kg hoggs at £84.00 from G R Moseley & Son Dairy Barn. 881 top quality medium hoggs averaged a fantastic 219p/kg with the top call of 262p/kg again from G R Moseley & Son Dairy Barn with 43kg hoggs at £112.50.

The 913 heavy and overweight hoggs averaged £98.72 with many lots turning £100 and peaking at £106.20.

Superlights to 160p average 127p Lights to 190p average 181p, Standards to 244p average 196.5p, Mediums to 262p average 219p, Heavy's to 225p average 200.5p, Others to 198p average 183.5p. Overall average 210p.

More sheep are required each week to meet this special demand. Sorting facilities are available for large consignments at all times

FAT EWES: (876)
An increased entry with some excellent runs of quality ewes met with a similarly fast trade for all on offer with an overall average of £53 and a top price of £126.00 from Miss A Moseley, Knockin.

A mixed entry of Rams averaged £65.00 with top price of £91 from R H Morris & Sons, Tregeirion.

Please note : All sheep entering the market must be tagged.

CALVES: (58)
Improved numbers selling to another excellent trade for all classes. Highlight of the sale the presentation of

a superb Limousin x British Blue Bull which topped at £488 from Andrew Brynfyedw £288 & £265 from Messrs Lloyd Jones Rhydonnen Isaf. Charollais Bulls to £370 from Messrs Reeves Meadow Farm. British Blue Bulls to £345 from Messrs Owen Tanycoed.

Hereford Bulls to £295 from Messrs Edwards Tynymaes. Limousin Heifers to £291 from Messrs Lloyd Jones Rhydonnen Isaf £240 from Messrs Owen Tanycoed £224 from Messrs Davies Tybrith.

Hereford Heifers to £208 from Messrs Edwards Tynymaes Friesian Bulls to £142 from Messrs Foulkes Maesteg £114 from Messrs Roberts Pentre David £104 from Messrs Edwards Tynymaes £100 from Messrs Evans Wern Farm £95 from Messrs Griffiths Gerlan

U72 & CULL COWS: (50)
An excellent entry of 50 Cattle met with another fantastic trade. Cattle selling to 232p/kg with a top price of £1683.70, again all breeds, shapes, sizes and finished level were in great demand

Cows
Limousin to 173p average 170.94p/kg
Charollais to 178p average 170.42p/kg
Friesian to 153p average 114.48p/kg
Steers

Limousin to 232p average 213.58p/kg
Belgian Blue to 209p average 200.89p/kg
Friesian to 190p

Stock Bull
Charollais to 149p
Limousin to 169p
50 Cattle average 129.94p/kg

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The V40 Cross Country is Volvo's answer to customers seeking a rugged off-road look from a five-door hatchback.

There's no denying that Volvo has produced a unique appearance for the Cross Country and the V40 attracted plenty of attention on test.

In standard format the SE is offered with folding door mirrors with ground lights and black mirror covers, 16in alloy wheels, rain sensor, textile/T-Tec upholstery, tread plates and silver roof rails making it stand out from the crowd.

Enhanced

The car can be further enhanced in Lux version which adds leather-faced upholstery, active bending xenon headlights, 17in alloy wheels, LED day-running lights, rear reading and theatre lighting.

One of the nicest touches on the test car was a system that enables you to choose between three different 'themes' for the dials - something I've not seen before.

There's also plenty of legroom, enough to rival Golf and BMW1 but if you go for the optional panoramic glass roof there could be a problem for taller rear seat passengers.

The boot has a clever folding floor meaning you can divide up the space or raise the load



The Volvo 460 Cross Country is available from £19,995

level and you can easily create a totally flat extended load area.

The SE on test came complete with Bluetooth, front and rear electric windows, alloy wheels, climate control, cruise control, steering wheel-mounted audio controls and keyless start.

Volvo has always been associated with the best in safety techniques and the V40 is no different. As well as the usual array of airbags and electronic driver aids, the car has an updated version of Volvo's City Safety system, which automatically applies the brakes if you get too close to a car in front.

There's also an airbag that pops out from under the bonnet to cover the windscreen and

front pillars if sensors detect a collision with a pedestrian which has helped the car achieve a five-star crash rating from Euro NCAP.

There's a wide range of seat and steering wheel adjustment too ensuring you find the right seating position.

The V40 was launched in the UK in July last year and is available with a choice of six engines, including a new 254hp, five-cylinder 2.5-litre T5 Geartronic performance model, which can cover the 0-60mph sprint in 5.7 seconds and will continue on to a top speed of 155mph.

Meanwhile, diesel engines include two 2.0-litre units - D3 with 150hp or D4 with 177hp. Both are available with a choice of manual or



Like all Volvos, the V40 Cross Country is big on safety features

automatic gearbox and combine impressive performance with frugal fuel economy - up to 65.7mpg for manual versions on the combined cycle.

Rounding off the diesel engine range is the 1.6-litre D2 engine. Available in all three body styles and a full range of trim level options, all D2 models feature sub 100g/km CO2 emissions.

The V40 Cross Country is available from £19,995 for the D2 SE up to the T5 Geartronic Cross Country Lux Nav with All-Wheel Drive, from £33,875.

Volvo's growing reputation will certainly be enhanced by the arrival of the V40 Cross Country.



The console in the new V40 Cross Country



A wide range of steering wheel adjustment

Bumper to bumper

Volvo V40 Cross Country

Model: D3 SE 5-Door
Prices: £22,845
Top speed: 124mph
0-62mph: 9.3secs
CO2 emissions: 137 g/km

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2010 10	AUDI A4 2.0 TDI AVANTE SE 143BHP 6 speed Manual. Metallic Silver, 64,000 miles, one owner, FSH. £13,999	
2006 06	AUDI A6 2.0 TDI S-LINE SALOON 6 speed, manual, Metallic Silver, Half leather, Sat Nav, 63,000 miles, FSH. SOLD	
2009 59	AUDI A3 2.0 TDI SPORTBACK 6-speed, Manual, Bright Red, 1 owner, 48,000 miles, Bluetooth, FSH. £12,999	
2007 07	AUDI Q7 3.0 TDI QUATTRO S-LINE Automatic. Metallic Black, 55,000 miles, FSH. SOLD	
2007 57	AUDI A3 1.6 S-Line, Manual, Bright Blue Metallic, Full Leather Interior, Only 33,000 Miles. £10,999	
2011 11	BMW 116 d M-Sport, 5-door, White, Manual, 18,000 miles, £30 a year tax + duty. £15,499	
2009 58	BMW 320d SE Coupe Auto. Platinum Bronze Metallic, one owner, 56,000 miles, FSH REDUCED . £12,499	
2007 57	BMW 120d SE Coupe 6 speed Manual. Metallic Grey, 50,000 miles, FSH. £11,999	
2011 11	BMW 320d SE 6-speed Manual 184BHP. Metallic Red, 14,000 miles, one owner, FSH. £18,499	
2010 10	CITROEN C3 PICASSO VTR+ 1.6 HDI Manual. Metallic Blue, 1 owner, 25,000 miles, £30.00 a year road tax. £7,999	
2009 59	CITROEN C3 1.4 HDI AIRDREAM 5-door. Metallic Silver, £30 a year Road Tax, 1 owner. £6,999	
2006 55	FIAT PUNTO 1.2 3-door. Metallic Orange, 34,000 miles, alloys. £3,999	
2002 52	FIAT PUNTO SPORTING 3-door. Metallic Grey. £2,499	
2008 58	FORD C-MAX 1.8 ZETEC Burnt Metallic Orange, 30,000 miles, privacy glass, alloys, FSH. £7,499	
2009 59	FORD MONDEO TDCI ZETEC 6 Speed Manual. Blue Metallic, 27,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH. £9,999	
2010 10	FORD KA 1.2 Z-TEC 3-door. Black Metallic, 1 owner, 22,000 miles, alloy wheels. £6,499	
2007 07	FORD MONDEO 2.0 GHIA 5-door. Red Metallic, 38,000 miles, FSH. SOLD	
2009 59	FORD FIESTA TDCI 3-door Zetec. Metallic Blue, 37,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH. £7,499	
2009 59	KIA CEE'D 1.6 LS 5-door Diesel. Metallic Blue, 33,000 miles, 1 owners. £8,499	
2008 08	MERCEDES E280 CDI Sport Estate Auto. Metallic Black, 63,000 miles. SOLD	
2002 02	MINI COOPER S 5-door Silver Metallic, FSH, only 51,000 miles, must be seen. £7,499	
2009 59	NISSAN NOTE 1.4 ASENTA MPV Coffee Latte, 1 owner, 41,500 miles, alloy wheels, air con. £6,499	
2010 10	NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI ACCENTA, Cafe Latte Metallic, 1 owner, 22,000 miles, FSH. £11,499	
2012 12	NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 ASENTA Manual. Red, 1 owner, only 4,000 miles. SOLD	
2005 05	NISSAN PRIMESTAR CAMPER VAN 1.9 CDTi 55,000 miles, Blue, brand new conversion carried out by Gee Wagon of Oswestry. £9,999	
2010 10	PEUGEOT 207 1.4 S 5-door, 6,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH. £7,499	

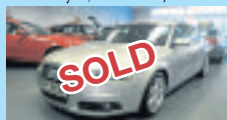
2001 Y	PORSCHE 911 CARRERA Manual. Metallic Blue, 81,000 miles, FSH, excellent condition. SOLD	
2004 04	PORSCHE CARRERA 4s 4x4, 4 Wheel Drive. Silver Metallic, Grey Leather, 46,000 miles, FSH, must be seen. REDUCED £24,999	
2004 04	PORSCHE BOXSTER 2.7 Manual. Metallic Silver, 63,000 miles. £9,499	
2005 55	RENAULT LAGUNA 1.8 Hatchback Manual. Metallic Silver, 90,000 miles. £2,499	
2010 60	RENAULT MEGANE T SPORT CUP 250bhp COUPE Metallic Racing Blue, 1 owner, 17,000 miles, graphite wheels. SOLD	
2010 10	RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 DYNAMIQUE 5-door. Blue, 1 owner, 10,000 miles, full service history. DUE IN	
2009 59	RENAULT CLIO 16v EXPRESSION 5-door. Metallic Silver, 25,000 miles. £6,499	
2009 59	SEAT IBIZA 1.6 SPORT 5-door. Metallic Grey, 24,000 miles, FSH. £6,999	
2009 09	SKODA FABIA 2 1.4 Estate. Blue Metallic, one owner, only 15,000 miles from new. £7,499	
2010 10	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 LIFE 5-door Manual. Metallic Blue, 1 owner, FSH. £7,499	
2005 05	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 CONVERTIBLE BERTONE LTD EDT Metallic Silver, 66,000 miles. £4,250	
2009 59	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 SRI 3-door. Automatic, Metallic Black, 1 owner, 12,000 miles. £7,499	
2004 04	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 LIFE 5-door. Bright Blue Metallic, 54,000 miles. £2,999	
2010 10	VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 TDI EXCLUSIVE Red, 15,000 miles, 1 owner, full service history. DUE IN	
2012 12	VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.7 CDTi EXCLUSIVE 5-door, Manual, Metallic Silver, 15,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH £9,999	
2003 03	VAUXHALL VECTRA 2.0 DTI SALOON Manual. Metallic Grey, 84,000 miles. £2,999	
2008 08	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.9 CDTi 150bhp DESIGN Blue Metallic, 59,000 miles, privacy glass, sat nav, FSH. SOLD	
2007 07	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 CLUB 3-door Manual. Metallic Black, 86,000 miles. £3,499	
2008 08	VOLVO XC90 DE SE Geartronic, 7 Seats, 43,000 miles, half leather interior FSH Graphite Grey Metallic. £17,999	
2003 53	VOLVO XC90 2.4 D5 Auto, 4x4, 7 Seats. Full leather, FSH. £7,999	
2008 08	VW PASSAT 1.9 TDI SE Estate Manual. Metallic Black, 93,000 miles, FSH. £7,499	
2008 58	VW POLO MATCH 1.4 AUTOMATIC 5-door. Black Metallic, 59,000 miles, alloy wheels, privacy glass. £5,999	
2003 03	VW POLO 1.4 3-door Manual. Bright Red, 61,000 miles, FSH. SOLD	
2009 09	VW SCIROCCO GT 2.0 TFSI COUPE 200PS Blue Metallic, one owner, only 13,700 miles, 6-speed box, 18" alloy, climate control, parking sensors. £15,999	
2008 58	VW EOS 1.4 TFSI Manual. Metallic Blue, 30,000 miles, FSH. £9,999	
2009 59	VW TRANSPORTER T28 1.9 TDI 104bhp PANEL VAN. White, 1 owner, 34,000 miles, FSH. £9,999+VAT	

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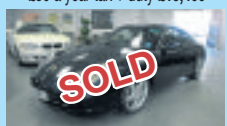
2007 57 AUDI A3 1.6 S-Line, Manual, Bright Blue Metallic, Full Leather Interior, Only 33,000 Miles £10,999



2006 06 AUDI A6 2.0 TDI S-LINE SALOON 6 speed, manual, Metallic Silver, Half leather, Sat Nav, 63,000 miles, FSH £9999



2011 11 BMW 116 d M-Sport, 5-door, White, Manual, 18,000 miles, £30 a year tax + duty £15,499



2001 Y PORSCHE 911 CARRERA Manual. Metallic Blue, 81,000 miles, FSH, excellent condition £12,499



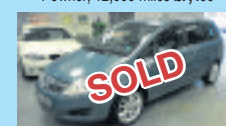
2012 12 VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.7 CDTi EXCLUSIVE 5-door, Manual, Metallic Silver, 15,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH £9,999



2008 58 VW EOS 1.4 TFSi Manual. Metallic Blue, 30,000 miles, FSH £9,999



2009 59 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 SRI 3-door. Automatic, Metallic Black, 1 owner, 12,000 miles £7,499



2008 08 VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.9 CDTi 150bhp DESIGN Blue Metallic, 59,000 miles, privacy glass, sat nav, FSH £7,699



2005 05 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 CONVERTIBLE BERTONE LTD EDT Metallic Silver, 66,000 miles £4,250



2003 53 VOLVO XC90 2.4 D5 Auto, 4x4, 7 Seats. Full leather, FSH £7,999

Motoring

Advertisement feature


Welsh Walls Car Sales in Oswestry sells cars and vans, and carries out servicing and MoTs



The business, in Willow Street, also sells motorcycles and scooters. Part exchanges are available

Garage has wide range of services

Welsh Walls Car Sales has been trading since 2009. It is situated at E M Hughes Auto Centre, Welsh Walls, Oswestry.

E M Hughes Auto Centre started business in 1988 at Middleton Road, carrying out repairs to cars and vans. It later expanded to carry out MoTs and then repairing and selling motorbikes and scooters.

Since the start it has always sold cars, but in 2009 son David joined in the car sales and it became Welsh Walls Car Sales.

David had previously always worked in the workshop gaining experience of motor vehicles and this has given him extensive knowledge. The next step forward was to introduce van sales as well as car sales.

The business prides itself on the fact that, although Welsh Walls Car Sales sells cars and vans, it also provides a first class back-up with its workshop and knowledge of vehicles.

This experience is used when buying in the vehicles for resale. There is no hard sell of any vehicle and consider-

ation will be given to all customers who want to view any vehicle.

Part exchange and finance is also available subject to status.

Part exchange

As Welsh Walls Car Sales also sells motorbikes and scooters, it may be possible to part exchange your car, van or bike, depending on which car, van or bike you wish to purchase. It is also possible to purchase bike clothing. This sometimes suits people as their circumstances change.

This can be due to many reasons. It may be that a bike is not being used and they require a car. It could be that they need a van for business and have another vehicle to use against the purchase.

Welsh Walls Car Sales is situated very close to the town centre and is in easy walking distance. From the Post Office in Willow Street (Post Office on your left-hand side), walk straight up to the next junction and turn left. The garage is on the right-hand side in Welsh Walls.

Visit www.welshwallscarsales.co.uk

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09 JAGUAR X-TYPE 2.2 DIESEL BLUE AUTO BLACK.....	£8750
59 NISSAN NOTE DCI Pure Drive.....	£5995
57 MONDEO EDGE TDCI Silver.....	£4995
57 LEXUS IS220 2.2 Diesel Black.....	£6995
07 PEUGEOT 207 SPORT 1.4 RED.....	£4295
06 FORD FOCUS ZETEC TDCI Blue.....	£5475
06 FORD FIESTA 1.4 ZETEC Diesel, Silver.....	£3495
06 MAZDA 5 TS2 DIESEL MPV BLUE.....	£4250
06 SUZUKI JIMNY 4x4.....	£5325
06 FIESTA ZETEC TDCI DIESEL BLUE.....	£4250
55 PEUGEOT 307 XSI 2.0 HDI Diesel. Bronze Met. Leather.....	£5350
56 VAUXHALL VECTRA Exclusive 1.8 Red Metallic.....	£3450
54 FORD FIESTA FLAME 5-dr. Silver.....	£3395
54 CORSA SXI Blue.....	£1875
03 CITROEN C5 1.8 Blue, superb throughout.....	£2750
03 VW GOLF 4 MOTION Leather.....	£3595
03 FORD KA Red. Choice of 2, low miles.....	£2195
02 ROVER 25 IMPRESSION Silver, 46k.....	£1995
51 FORD FIESTA 1.6 ZETEC.....	£1150
02 FIAT STILO BLUE.....	£995
V JAGUAR XK8 1 Owner, Low Mileage, Silver, must be seen.....	POA
W BMW 530 SE Diesel. Leather, Auto.....	£2495
W VOLKSWAGEN GOLF GT TDI BLACK.....	£1995
S JAGUAR XJ 3.2 Auto. Gold Met. Leather. Extensive Service History.....	£2995
SUMMER FUN	
T MAZDA MX5 Black Convertible.....	£2195
03 FORD STREET KA Blue Convertible.....	£2895
54 MGTF Convertible Yellow.....	£1995
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08 Peugeot Partner Diesel.....	£3695 +VAT
07 Transit SWB Diesel.....	£4200 +VAT
06 Ford Transit Connect Diesel.....	£3695 +VAT
Y TRANSIT HIGH ROOF DIESEL.....	£1995+ VAT
06 Ford Transit Connect 55k.....	£2995 +VAT
04 Renault Kangoo.....	£1695 +VAT
X Ford Transit Diesel, SWB.....	£2695 +VAT
Y Mitsubishi L200 Double Cab.....	SOLD
P LAND ROVER DEFENDER TDI.....	£3695

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CAR OF THE WEEK

56 MONDEO 2.2 TD CI ZETEC, BLACK, SAT NAV, CRUISE CONTROL, FSH, 66,000 miles, NOW..... £4,695

59 PEUGEOT 207 VEVY 1.4, 3DR, AIR CON, ALLOY WHEELS, RED, ONE OWNER, 20,000 miles..... £5,999

59 CORSA 1.4 DESIGN, ALLOY WHEELS, FSH, 35,000 miles..... £5,995

09 VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN, 5DR, GREEN MET, VERY NICE CAR, 23,000 miles..... £5,750

58 PEUGEOT 207 1.6 SPORT 5DR, ALLOY WHEELS, 42,000 miles..... £5,285

08 FIESTA GHIA 1.6, 5DR, ALLOY WHEELS, AIR CON, 52,000 miles..... £4,995

07 CITROEN C3 SX AUTO 1.6, ALLOY WHEELS, AC, CD, SERVICE HISTORY, 28,000 miles..... £4,575

57 TOYOTA AYGO, BLUE, ONE OWNER, AC, CD PLAYER, ELECTRIC WINDOWS, ROAD TAX ONLY £20, 60,000 miles NOW..... £4,495

58 PEUGEOT 107 KISS, 3DR, CD PLAYER, ELEC. WIND., RED, ROAD TAX ONLY £20, 42,000 miles..... £4,395

07 FIESTA ZETEC CLIMATE, SILVER, AIR CON, ALLOY WHEELS, 43,000 miles..... £4,395

56 KA COLLECTION AC, PAS, CD, ONE OWNER, FULL SERVICE HISTORY, 28,000 miles..... £3,250

£1995 AND UNDER

02 PEUGEOT 106 INDEPENDENCE 1.1, PAS, 64,000 miles..... £1,795

52 CITROEN SAXO DESIRE 1.1 (REGISTERED 2003), PAS, SILVER, 59,000 miles..... £1,295

COMMERCIALS PLUS VAT

57 TRANSIT MWB HIGH TOP, WHITE, SERVICE HISTORY, 62,000 miles..... WAS £7,695 NOW £6,895

58 VAUXHALL VIVARO 2700 CDTI, SWB, CD, SIDE DOOR, WHITE, (EURO 4) 63,000 miles..... £6,495

58 PEUGEOT EXPERT SWB HDI, TWIN SIDE DOORS, WHITE, SERVICE HISTORY, ONE OWNER, 76,000 miles..... £5,250

59 PEUGEOT PARTNER HDI, SIDE DOOR, ELECTRIC WINDOWS, WHITE 53,000 miles..... £4,850

58 TRANSIT CONNECT T200 L75 SIDE DOOR, DARK BLUE..... £4695

08 VAUXHALL COMBO 1.7 CDTI FRIDGE VAN 75,000 miles..... £3,995

08 VAUXHALL COMBO 1.7 CDTI 1/2 FRIDGE, 1/2 STORAGE VAN, FSH, 75,000 miles..... £3,995

Part ex. and Finance Available
subject to status
Cars and Vans now bought in

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deposit***
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available

or you could take
£500
Cash Advance*



61 Reg Fiat 500 1.2 Pop

Fiat Punto Representative Example:	1 Final payment of	£3214.00
47 Monthly payments of	Option to purchase fee	£285.00
Deposit	Total amount payable	£8853.53
Cash price (inc VAT)	Miles per annum	6,000
Duration	Excess mileage charge	0.06p
Amount to finance	Fixed rate	8.07%
Interest charges	Representative APR	9.5%

60 Reg Vauxhall Corsa CDTi



Cash Price & Total Payable Deposit 260 Weekly Payments of **0% APR**
£5995 Nil £23.05

10 Reg Fiat Punto 1.4 Active



Cash Price & Total Payable Deposit 260 Weekly Payments of **0% APR**
£4995 Nil £19.21

10 Reg Vauxhall Astra SRI



Cash Price & Total Payable Deposit 260 Weekly Payments of **0% APR**
£7995 Nil £30.75

13 Reg Citroën C1 1.0 VTR



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£9070 **£6995 £2075**

13 Reg Citroën C3 1.4 VTR HDi



NEW Now only Save
£14090 **£10995 £3095**

12 Reg Fiat Punto 1.2



NEW Now only Save
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07 Reg Seat Leon FR



only £6495

10 Reg Renault Megane Dynamique



only £6495

08 Reg Vauxhall Zafira SRI CDTi



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7 SEATER, CD PLAYER, AIR CON,
POWER STEERING, ELECTRIC
WINDOWS, IMMACULATE
CONDITION



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**VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SXI
SPORT**
3 DOOR, ALLOYS, CD PLAYER,
AIR CON, POWER STEERING,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
IMMACULATE CONDITION



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VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SXI
5 DOOR, ALLOYS, CD PLAYER,
AIR CON, POWER STEERING,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS, LOW
MILEAGE, IMMACULATE
CONDITION



Buy this car, and drive away today from only £17 per week*.
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WARRANTY, £20 PER YEAR
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AUTOMATIC, CD PLAYER, AIR
CON, POWER STEERING, 65
MPG, IMMACULATE CONDITION



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VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CLUB
5 DOOR, CD PLAYER, AIR CON,
ALLOYS, POWER STEERING,
ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
IMMACULATE CONDITION



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**TOYOTA AVENTIS 2.0 VVT
T SPIRIT**
5 DOOR, ALLOYS, CD PLAYER,
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ELECTRIC WINDOWS,
IMMACULATE CONDITION



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CARS OF THE WEEK

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SE 85



5 DOOR, CD PLAYER, AIR
CON, POWER STEERING, E/
WINDOWS, 1 POD CONNECTION,
HEATED STEERING WHEEL,
LOW INSURANCE, TAX, STILL
UNDER VAUXHALL WARRANTY,
IMMACULATE

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per week*. Call us on 0800 917 4622 quoting stock
reference: S1809

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SE 100 16V



5 DOOR, ALLOYS, CD PLAYER,
AIR CON, POWER STEERING, E/
WINDOWS, HEATED STEERING
WHEEL, 1 POD CONNECTION,
STILL UNDER VAUXHALL
WARRANTY, IMMACULATE
CONDITION

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per week*. Call us on 0800 917 4622 quoting stock
reference: S1808

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HEATED SEATS & STEERING WHEEL**

**VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.9 CDTI
SRI 150PS**
6 SPEED DIESEL, SRI STYLING,
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SPORT

Scramble is a close run thing

THE Texas Scramble at Oswestry Golf Club on Saturday, April 6, was won by Dave Thomas, Carl Woosnam, Barry Woosnam and Richard Probert with 60-4-56.

They were followed by Oliver Hughes, Peter Windham, Oliver Wheeler and Grant Litchfield with 63-5-1-57-9 and Stuart Owen, Tony Jones, Robin Rees and Steve Chambers with 66 - 6-7 - 59-3.

The Captain's Away Day at Warrington Golf Club was won by Dave Probert & Joe Poole, 45 points. Second were Mike Jones & Vic Hyde, 44 points with Jim Stirling & Sion Edwards third with 42 points.

Simon Roberts & Paul Huxley were fourth with 42 points winning on count-back from Mike Jones & Nigel Suckley.

Wendy and Sue on top

THE Alice Kempster Rose-ball Foursomes at Oswestry Golf Club on Tuesday, April 2, was won by Wendy Pughe & Sue Powell with a score of 92-17-75.

They were followed by Barbara Warner & Pam Murfin with 100-24.5-75.5 while Margaret Brogden & Ann Garbet were third with 97 - 19.5 - 77.5.

The fourth placed pair of Iild Gittins & Margaret Green scored 104-24.5-79.5 and they won on countback from Gina Hatt & Marilyn Molyneux.

League tables

English Clubs Championships									
NATIONAL LEAGUE 3 MIDLANDS									
	P	W	D	L	BP	Pts			
Amptill	24	22	0	1	20	110			
Sutton Coldfield	24	22	0	2	18	106			
South Leicester	24	18	0	6	16	88			
Nuneaton	24	16	1	7	16	82			
Hinckley	24	13	1	10	14	68			
Newport	24	12	0	12	15	63			
Broadstreet	24	11	1	12	12	58			
Bourneville	23	10	0	13	13	57			
Sandbach	24	11	0	13	11	55			
Longton	23	10	0	13	13	53			
Syston	24	8	1	15	15	49			
Scunthorpe	24	9	0	15	9	45			
Mansfield	24	1	22	6	12				
Derby	24	0	23	5	9				
MIDLANDS 1 WEST									
	P	W	D	L	BP	Pts			
Worcester Wander	24	20	2	2	19	103			
Old Haleonsians	23	20	1	2	20	102			
Lichfield	22	18	0	4	17	89			
Burton	23	14	1	8	15	73			
Hereford	24	15	0	9	11	71			
Stratford Up Avon	24	13	2	9	12	68			
Stoke on Trent	23	12	0	11	17	65			
Walsall	23	12	1	10	13	63			
Whitchurch	24	11	1	13	11	55			
Berkswell & Balsall	24	9	0	15	6	42			
Ludlow	23	5	1	17	8	30			
Barkers Butts	24	5	0	19	8	28			
Northwich	23	3	0	20	5	17			
Camp Hill	22	2	0	20	2	5			
MIDLANDS 2 WEST (NORTH)									
	P	W	D	L	BP	Pts			
Silhillians	17	15	0	2	12	72			
Wolverhampton	18	12	0	6	16	64			
Mossley Oak	17	14	0	3	7	63			
Laek	18	11	1	6	11	57			
Spartans	17	8	0	9	8	40			
Old Salfordians	19	8	0	10	10	39			
Handsworth	18	8	0	10	6	38			
Bridgnorth	17	5	0	12	8	28			
Ashton Edwardsians	18	5	0	13	7	27			
Wentworth	17	6	1	11	5	21			
Verseyes	18	4	0	14	5	16			
MIDLANDS 3 WEST (NORTH)									
	P	W	D	L	BP	Pts			
Willenhall	20	16	0	4	11	75			
Newcastle	20	13	1	6	15	69			
Stourbridge Lions	19	13	0	12	13	63			
Dunelm	20	10	0	10	17	57			
Burnwood	19	11	2	6	5	54			
Shrewsbury	20	10	0	10	11	51			
Scotton	19	10	0	9	10	50			
Wendesbury	20	9	1	10	10	48			
Edwardsians	18	8	1	9	9	43			
Ecclishall	19	7	0	12	9	28			
Yardley & District	20	6	1	13	11	21			
Cleobury Mortimer	20	1	0	19	1	5			
MIDLANDS 4 WEST (NORTH)									
	P	W	D	L	BP	Pts			
Market Drayton	18	15	0	3	15	75			
Uxeter	17	14	0	3	12	69			
Cannock	18	14	0	4	6	63			
Tenbury	18	12	0	6	10	58			
Harborne	17	7	0	10	9	38			
Silphos Castle	17	0	1	16	1	36			
Bromford	18	7	0	11	35				
Five Ways OE	17	6	0	11	35				
Clee Hill	18	7	1	10	3	33			
Barton-U Needwood	18	7	0	11	21				
Telford Town	19	1	1	17	4	5			
SOUTH LANCASHIRE/CHESHIRE DIVISION 2									
	P	W	D	L	BP	Pts			
Sutton	22	21	0	1	18	102			
Douglas	22	20	0	2	15	95			
L'pool Collingate	24	15	1	8	13	75			
Dunelm	22	14	0	7	11	67			
Vagabonds	22	13	1	8	12	66			
Mossport	23	14	0	9	14	65			
Scotton	22	13	0	11	12	63			
Ormskirk	23	10	0	13	9	44			
Oswestry	23	9	1	13	6	44			
Wendesbury	22	7	0	14	9	38			
Ramsay	22	8	0	14	7	34			
Marple	23	5	1	17	11	33			
Oldershaw	23	6	0	17	7	31			
Buxton	23	4	1	18	5	26			

Shropshire selects Ellesmere College pupils



Some of the Ellesmere College cricketers who will represent their home counties at cricket

ELLESMERE college has seen 30 of its young cricketers selected to represent their home counties.

The college's academy, which was set up in 2008, has seen dozens of players make the grade for junior squads representing Shropshire, Cheshire, North East Wales and Wales in the Recent County and Regional trials.

The trials took place in January with all 30 players who attended being selected for county honours.

The college has seen six players selected for Cheshire, six for the Welsh squads and 18 for Shropshire and Rod Jones, director of the cricket academy said "They have all done really well and we are very proud of the players who are going onto represent their counties."

"Regional and national recognition for academy pupils are one of the development goals of all the sports academies at the school, and this is testament to the cricket at Ellesmere which provides the support needed for players to progress into county squads and beyond."

The Academy at Ellesmere College was started with the aim of developing top cricketers for the future and it has seen an increase in the number of pupils attending the school and the cricket academy over the years.

Recent achievements have included a successful tour of Barbados where a team won four out of their five games and the Under 15 Girls team who won the SCB Lady Taverners County Indoor competition.

Llanfair cause a upset in cup tie

SECOND division high fliers Llanfair United maintained their excellent campaign as they sent first division Berriew crashing out of the Spar Mid Wales League Cup.

Rhys Stephens' outfit were up for the quarter-final challenge right from the first whistle, and showed they will be no mugs in division one next season as they ran out impressive 4-1 winners to set up a last four clash with Llandiloies Town.

"4-1 may sound easy, but it was far from it," said boss Stephens after the victory.

"We competed well against one of the better teams in this division one and deserved to win. We showed that we can more than hold our own in the division next season."

Llanfair made the perfect start when Geraint Jones opened the scoring in the first few minutes, with a well taken volley, but Berriew were back on terms five minutes before half time through Keiran Groves.

However, the visitors got their noses back in front just before the interval when 16-year-old Ben Jones latched onto a terrific through ball by Paul Griffiths.

Steve Andrew made it 3-1 after the break after a corner had been half cleared and victory was secured when Matt Spencer broke down the wing before crossing for Daniel Jones to finish off.

Success

Buoyed by the win, Llanfair were looking to stay on the trail of more cup success when they visited Hay St Mary's in the ER Jenkins second division league cup last night.

High-riding Llandiloies Town came from behind as they booked their semi-final ticket with a scrappy 2-1 passage against Hay St Mary's at Victoria Avenue.

After a goalless first half, the Daffs soon found themselves trailing after the break but rallied with goals from Jamie Breese and a super strike from Tom Goodwin.

While Llanfair stayed on course for cup success, there is no place in the semi-finals for FOUR CROSSES whose miserable run continued as they went out of the competition 3-0 at Rhosgoch.

WATERLOO ROVERS clinched their place in the last four thanks to a 3-2 extra time win at Llandrindod Wells thanks to goals from Steven Hole (2) and Gaz Turner. They now meet Rhosgoch at a neutral venue.

In the league, Dave Jarman's second half strike was enough to give Carno a 1-0 win over struggling Dolgelau to ease their basement worries in division one.

Builth Wells moved joint top of the table with Llandiloies after their 2-1 home verdict over Tywyn Bryn-crug, however they have played five more games than the Daffs.

Chris Jones gave Builth the lead with a penalty, while at the other end home keeper Ewan Jones saved a spot kick.

Tywyn pulled level after the break, but the Spa men were not to be denied as Matt Croose headed in the winner.

LLANSANTFFRAID VILLAGE went down 2-0 at home to Bow Street, while MONTGOMERY made up more ground on the leading pack with a 5-1 home beating of one time leaders Aberaeron.

Defending champions off to a flyer with crushing victory

DEFENDING champions Crifftins A showed they again mean business this season as they launched their new campaign in the Oswestry and District Bowls League with an 8-2 home success over Corwen A.

Dave Edwards led the charge on a chilly first night of the season with a 21-3 victory, while there were three other single figure winners in a comfortable 60-shots success. Next week, Terry Thompson's side hit the road to Ceiriog A.

WESTON RHYN had a baptism of fire in the top flight when they suffered an opening night 10-0 whitewash at Johnstown A.

Newly promoted to division one this season, Rhyn found themselves well beaten by 86

shots, with only three players getting into double figures.

Derek Taylor was the best of the losers to 16.

"It was a disaster but we can only get better," said captain Brian Oakley who will be hoping his team can bounce back at home to Ruabon A next week.

WHITTINGTON A had a disappointing first night as they went down 6-4 on home soil to Ruabon A, who shaded the spoils after taking the shots aggregate by seven.

"It was a bad start," said captain Aled Davies.

"With the state of our green after the snow, we would have taken any kind of win, but Ruabon bowled the green better than us."

It was always going to prove tough going with Whittington having had little chance to get to grips with their own green following the poor weather.

Skipper Davies (21-12) provided one of the four wins, while Julian Turner was their best of the night when prevailing to seven.

They other two winners were Merv Davies (21-20) and Mel Morris (21-17).

They now face the short trip to Church A next Tuesday as they bid to make a

BOWLS

by John Bridgwater

swift riposte.

LLANYMYNECH A, who narrowly avoided relegation last term, were happy enough with their start as they finished 4-4 with visiting Chirk A, but lost the aggregate 152-121 for a 6-4 defeat.

"It's not a bad start as we usually struggle against Chirk," said captain Tony Pritchard.

Captaincy

Newcomer Keith Bacon, who has joined from Weston Rhyn, marked his first appearance with a 21-20 win, while Mark Kirkham (21-14), James Candlin (21-15) and Paul Smith, who won to 19, were the other winners.

CHURCH A were left kicking their heels as their visit to newly promoted Flexys A was postponed as their hosts were unable to prepare their green following recent heavy snow.

The match has been rescheduled for next Monday, while Church entertain

Retired officer starting new class



Retired prison officer Michael Corten, right, who is starting new martial arts classes at the Oswestry Leisure Centre

A SHROPSHIRE grandfather who retired after the county's prison was closed last month has found a novel way of filling the extra time he now has on his hands – launching new martial arts classes.

Michael Corten, 54, worked as a prison officer at Shrewbury jail for 25 years and chose to take early retirement rather than move to another prison when its was closed at the end of March.

But rather than tending the gardening or taking up a new hobby as most retired people often do, Mr Corten is continuing with his love of the martial art of aikido.

He already runs classes at the Shrewsbury Sports Village on Sundorne Road on Tuesday evenings.

And with a bit more time on this hands, the father of three is starting a new class at the same venue on Friday evenings starting from April 19.

And he is bringing aikido to Oswestry too, by launching a class at Oswestry Leisure Centre on Shrewsbury Road on Thursday evenings starting from April 18.

Mr Corten, who has practised aikido for 32 years and is a fourth dan black belt, said he has ran classes in the area at several venues – including at one time in Shrewsbury jail.

He said: "I actually ran regular classes at the jail's gym but they were for the public and any staff who wanted to join – they were not for the prisoners obviously. We have been at several other venues, but have now been at the Shrewsbury Sports Village for the past four years.

"When we were told the prison was closing I was offered a chance of being redeployed elsewhere but I was looking to take early retirement anyway.

"This has given me the chance to put on the extra classes and I delighted to be able to bring aikido to Oswestry.

Discipline

"I teach people of all abilities and levels and I can also grade them through to attain their belts.

"I think it is so important to be able to defend yourself these days and aikido does just that.

"It teaches you discipline and it non-combative so it is about being able to fend off attackers whether they try to kick or punch you or even come at you with a weapon." People interested in joining Mr Corten's new classes should contact the leisure centres.

Ifton win but made to fight by new boys

IFTON made a winning start to their campaign in the Shropshire Premier Bowls League – but captain Dicky Jones felt his side missed an opportunity for an even bigger points haul.

The St Martins side had led 6-2 after eight games, but in the end were restricted to a 9-5 and six shots victory against league new boys Burway.

"We started off well, and at one stage we were looking at an 11-3 win, but Burway are quite strong and have a couple of ex-county players, and we lost three of the back four which was disappointing," said Jones.

Leighton Roberts took the coppers for the hosts with a 1-8 verdict.

Ifton make their first trip of the season to Bowring tomorrow night, and Jones – who has taken over the captaincy after Steve Robinson relinquished the reins – hopes his side can improve on their performances on the road.

SPORT

Keys twice hit back to win 4-2 and reach final

THE Keys twice came from behind to reach the final of the Roche North Shropshire Sunday League Consolation Cup in their first season with a 4-2 win over Ironworks.

A fine individual goal from Brendan Reeves after just two minutes gave the Ironworks the lead but Daryl Davies levelled from the spot after referee John Davies spotted a push in the box.

Ironworks were back in front just two minutes later when Ben Carter found the net, only for Tom Nash to put Keys level again five minutes before half time.

Craig Sudlow put the Keys ahead on 73 minutes and, with their opponents pushing, Alan Ellis scored deep into added time to seal a fine win.

The Keys await the winners of Dudleston Heath versus Malpas tie to discover who they will meet in the final at Wem on Sunday, April 28.

Meanwhile, in the league, champions CROSS FOXES won 5-4 against OAK INN as they battled back from a three goal deficit.

Equalised

Todd Roberts after 14 minutes, Dave Hartshorn (30) and a fine individual goal from Graeme Kirkham gave the Oak a three goal lead.

Foxes pulled one back from a twice taken penalty after the first spot kick from Carl Harris was saved but referee Roger Firmstone adjudged encroachment by the Oak, Harris making no mistake with his second effort.

Harris reduced the arrears to 3-2 on 68 minutes with a great right foot volley from a Gareth Hardy cross, and Mike Lloyd equalised on 73 minutes.

Harris completed his hat-trick with another penalty to make it 4-3 to the Foxes and Adam Herbert netted No5.

However, Herbert was sent off within a minute for foul and abusive language with Hartshorn pulling one back to set up an interesting finish.

Malpas, meanwhile, have reached the final of the Cheshire Sunday Cup after they beat Customs House Chester 3-1.

● **Sunday Fixtures: League Cup semi-finals: Athletic Market v Oak Inn, Cross Foxes v Malpas.**

League: Dudleston Heath v Ironworks.

Both teams hammered

OSWESTRY's two rugby teams shipped in over 100 points between them as they both suffered disappointing outings.

The first team were well beaten 47-5 against Ormskirk at Granville Park, while the second string slumped 59-13 at Burnage III.

Despite having suffered four defeats in their last five outings, Oswestry firsts should remain clear of any basement danger in the south Lancs and Cheshire Two.

However, points again promise to be hard-earned on Saturday when they head across the water to the Isle of Man to take on title chasing Douglas – where they have never before won.

The seconds now find themselves third bottom in the Raging Bull North West League division three (south). They are now at promotion chasing Wilm-slow III on Saturday.

Village FC starting trials and squad selection

FOLLOWING their successful season as a Welsh Academy, Llansantffraid Village FC are continuing their trials and squad selection for youngsters in May and June.

The club wants to build on its plans to create a system that enhances player development whether it is through the Academy teams or the development squad sessions.

"We are the only club in North and Mid Wales to hold Academy status whilst not being in the top two tiers of the Welsh system and are proud that a local, community friendly club can provide academy football for local youngsters," said coach Mike Digwood.

"Next season we will train on the new floodlit astro turf pitch which is under construction at Oswestry School.

"This will give us the opportunity of reg-

ular evening training sessions throughout the winter months and we are confident that this will be a huge step forward for all our players.

"The aim of the Llansantffraid Village Academy is to give young players in the area the best possible opportunities to aspire to the highest level of their ability that it is possible for them to achieve."

The trials, which incorporate players from under-eight to under-16, get underway on Tuesday May 28, and run into June.

Digwood added: "We will continue to bring together the best young players in Mid Wales and Shropshire and provide them with a top quality coaching, games and education programme.

"Within our academy, we will provide a number of fixtures against professional

league clubs and other academy teams in our leagues and overseas opposition.

"The aim of the Llansantffraid Village Academy is to give young players in the area the best possible opportunities to aspire to the highest level of their ability that it is possible for them to achieve."

The Academy will provide regular training sessions for youngsters, and give specialist advice on fitness and nutrition, and organisers believe they can offer players the opportunity to develop their skills both on and off the field while, most important of all, enjoying themselves in a relaxed and non-pressurised environment.

"We will also continue to keep our Academy fees to a minimum as we realise that in the current economic climate it is important that everyone is aware that our commit-

ment is to player development rather than financial gain," added Digwood.

Application forms and dates of trials in May and June can be downloaded from <http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/llansantffraidvillageyouth/>

For any more information, please contact Digwood on 01691 6486553 or 07969-795529. Trial forms will also be available on the day.

The first trials will take place on grass at Treflan, Llansantffraid, on May 28, while trials two and three will be on grass at Oswestry School.

Players will need to bring boots, shin pads and drinks.

Each trial will incur a charge of £3 per player who will be notified if successful or not by June 30.

COBRA grab last-gasp draw against struggling Shotton

COBRA's promotion ambitions in the Swalec North Wales League division two (north) suffered a hiccup when they could only manage a last gasp 17-17 draw at struggling Shotton Steel.

The Meifod men, lying clear in second place, travelled in good heart against a side who shipped in 50 points against Machynlleth the previous week.

But they found the strengthened Steelmen a tough nut to crack, and in the end were indebted to a late converted try to earn a share of the spoils, and with it two points.

Despite only drawing, COBRA are still well placed to make the step up to division one next season, although their main rivals Llandudno revived their cause with a surprising 46-15 hammering of champions elect Denbigh.

That result leaves Llandudno 13 points behind the Llanfair Caereinion side with two games in hand, while the two sides come face to face in a crunch clash in Meifod a week on Saturday.

Having played little in recent weeks, COBRA looked rusty and paid the price for basic errors as they found themselves 17-0 down in the first half.

Both Shotton's tries came from mistakes, one a result of an interception, before a penalty from fly half Llew Williams reduced the deficit just before half time.

Disappointed

The visitors gradually improved after the break, and got the first of their two touchdowns when flanker Richard Rees shrugged off a couple of tackles to break through and score, Williams converting.

With Shotton tiring in the last 20 minutes, and slowing the game down at every opportunity, COBRA pushed forward and got their reward when centre Iwan Vaughan crossed, with Williams converting to level the scores.

Ultimately disappointed with the draw, COBRA had a chance to bounce back when they entertained basement side Llanidloes last night (wed), before taking on Rhyl in the North Wales Plate semi-final on Saturday.

Three sin binnings proved costly as WELSHPOOL shipped to a 21-6 home loss to promotion chasing Rhos in the North Wales League division three (north).

The Maesydre side had started well, with Daley Jones kicking a penalty in the first minute and a second penalty on the half hour

mark. They were looking good at 6-0 up at half time but the momentum shifted following the first of three yellow cards in the first period, which was followed by two more in the second half.

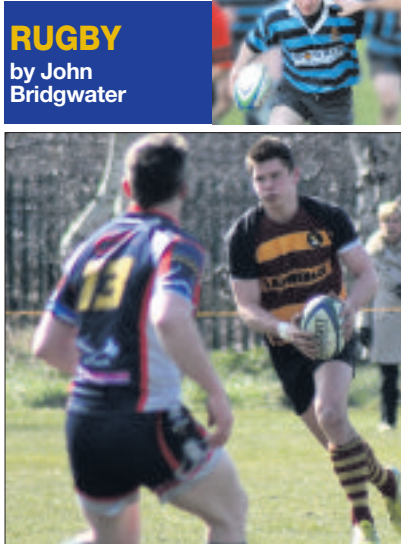
Rhos took advantage to run in three tries, the last coming in the final minute, to give them a flattering margin of victory, but a young Pool side could take heart from several aspects of their display.

This Saturday, sixth placed Welshpool bid to bounce back when they make the trek to Harlech, who lie one place above in the table.

Newtown stayed hot on the promotion trail in division two (north) with a club record 122-0 mauling of struggling Holyhead.

Winger Matty Jones led the charge with five of his side's 18 tries, while Gareth Williams kicked 15 conversions for a 30-point haul.

Meanwhile, COBRA's youngsters went down 27-17 to Mold in the North Wales Youth League division one and there was no joy for the Welshpool under-15s who were beaten 54-24 by Oswestry.

RUGBY
by John
Bridgwater

A COBRA player goes on the attack against Shotton



A COBRA player tries to charge down a clearance kick from a Shotton player



A Welshpool under-15 player makes a break during their defeat by Oswestry

Late Gerrard strike sees Boys Club beat reserves

undaunted with keeper Dan Wood pulling off two good saves shortly after the break, and they equalised on the hour when Ryan Kenny's persistence was rewarded as the skipper showed some trickery before stroking the ball home.

Both sides then had chances, Matt Owen blazed over for the Oswestry hosts and Sam Jones shot wide when well placed at the other end.

Morda seemed about to secure their first point since November until Gerrard beat his marker and fired home with five minutes left on the watch.

Despite the defeat, they will hope to build on the confidence gained from their improved performance when they entertain Brown Clee at Weston Road on Saturday (3pm).

The Boys Club are on the road to Bishop's Castle this weekend.

OSWESTRY LIONS' big clash with high flying Ketley Town in division one was postponed as their Telford rivals had commitments in the Shropshire Junior Cup.

On Saturday, Nick Maguire's side bid to maintain their promotion push at basement side Wrockwardine Wood Juniors.

Holders United are well beaten

HOLDERS Morda United lost their grip on the Mer-cian Regional League premier division cup after going down 4-2 at AFC Ludlow in their delayed quarter-final – with defeat more emphatic than the scoreline suggests.

Without a game for three weeks, Morda found themselves off the pace from the start as Ludlow looked more hungry, with keeper Sam Jones somehow tipping an early shot onto the bar.

However, they were soon behind when the lively Daniel Stack netted for the hosts, and were fortunate not to be trailing further as more chances went begging.

A second goal arrived as Ludlow midfielder Jamie Hammonds stuck a shot from range and the ball moved and picked up speed off the surface to beat keeper Jones.

To make matters worse, Jones broke his finger in attempting to save the shot, which will rule him out for upcoming fixtures.

Morda did get a foothold in the match before half time, but a couple of Kev McGarvey free kicks were their only efforts of note.

It was effectively game over with Ludlow's first attack of the second half when the visitors failed to clear their lines, the ball dropping to the home winger Danny Crowther who slotted the ball home at the near post.

Hindsight

After rattling the upright, Ludlow did make it four when Morda, searching for a goal, were hit on the break and Crowther ran from deep to go one-on-one with Jones who was helpless to stop the effort.

Morda threw on Kieron Barry and Chris Scott and both made an impact in the last 10 minutes.

Firstly, Shawn Melusi played a good through ball to find Scott who worked it onto his left foot and found the bottom corner, then in stoppage time, Gaz Lewis beat the offside trap from deep and crossed for Barry to smash home.

Despite the late goals, Morda boss Craig Rogers admitted his side had been well beaten.

"Firstly credit to Ludlow, they were better in every department than us today, and I wish them all the best in the competition," he said.

"Looking at ourselves though, it is probably the worst performance I have seen in my time at the club, the only saving grace for us is that it has come in a cup game.

"In hindsight, I would say I got my team selection and tactics wrong. I can hold my hands up there, but the lacklustre performance from the players was unacceptable."

Harriers name road race date

MALDWIN Harriers will be holding a 10km road race - part of the Mid Wales race series - and fun run on Sunday, May 12.

The event, which starts at Newtown Football Club (fun run 11am and main race 11.30am), will take runners over roads and footpaths along the River Severn.

Under-nines must be accompanied by adults, while entry fees are £6 for club runners, £8 for unattached, and £2 for fun runners.

SPORT

Rangers looking for three victories

ELLESMERE Rangers' spokesman Mark McIntyre believes three more wins from their last seven games will be enough to ensure the team's Midland Alliance survival.

That prognosis was made after the Meresiders edged out fellow strugglers Studley 1-0 at home thanks to Jamie Haynes' first-half header.

Rangers remain two points adrift at the foot of the table after that win but it extends their unbeaten run to six games.

And they could take a further huge step towards survival in the next week when they faced another struggling side, Heath Hayes, home and away in the space of four days.

McIntyre said: "It was dull affair and we scrapped home with a 1-0 win but at the end of the day it is results that matter at this stage of the season."

"A win is a win and everyone was over the moon on Saturday. Obviously with Heath Hayes winning as well though it makes the next two games very important."

Highest

"I think 35 points should make us safe and at the moment we are on 26 so we need another nine points from our last seven games."

Rangers had to endure some early scares on Saturday as Karl Edwards and Lewis Haycock both came within inches of an opener for the visitors.

But Dan Tolley, James O'Reilly, Connor Courtney and Haynes all missed the target for the hosts before the latter finally found the net three minutes before the break.

Haynes leapt highest to power home Courtney's corner kick in what proved to be the decisive moment of the game.

A largely forgettable second half followed with Rangers determined to hang on to what they had.

The nearest they came to extending their lead was when Studley's keeper Keith Rosthill lost control with the ball at his feet and his belated clearance struck Dave Howarth and flew to safety.

But Ellesmere were left hanging on as Leon Blake fired over from a great position in the 88th minute after Scott Turner had headed into the danger area.

14 licences handed out

TNS have been granted UEFA and FAW domestic licences for next season, entitling them to play in both the Welsh Premier and Europe.

There were 14 domestic club licences awarded, with only Llaneloni and GAP Connaught Quay rejected.

The licences are granted on a variety of criteria, including ground standards, coaching and youth development, the legal entity of the club and a good financial practice.

Of the four successful feeder-league clubs, Cymru Alliance runaway leaders Rhyl gained their domestic licence so they now look set for a return to the Welsh Premier League, three years after they were relegated for failing to achieve the licence.

Cefn Druids were also awarded their first FAW domestic licence, which is a pre-requisite for participation in the Welsh Premier.

Three second-half goals ends Guils cup hopes

THREE second half goals put paid to Guilsfield's hopes of lifting the Cymru Alliance Cup for a second time in three seasons as they slipped to a 3-2 home exit to Flint Town United in the quarter-finals.

Winners of the trophy two years ago, the Guils were finally downed by Ryan Davies' strike two minutes from time, although a late surge of pressure almost took the tie into extra time.

The hosts looked like a side who had not played for three weeks as Flint began the game on the front foot as keeper Dave Littleford was kept busy in the early exchanges.

However, the Guils took the lead against the run of play on 18 minutes as a mix-up between Flint keeper Mike Jones and his back four led to Martyn

Ziemann picking up a loose ball and beating the custodian.

Despite getting their noses in front, Russell Cadwallader's men were unable keep possession for long enough to trouble the visitors who were always a threat in the first period.

Glimmer

The second half continued in the same vein as the Silkmen grew in confidence and it was no surprise that the equaliser came courtesy of substitute Nathan Peate's header on the hour mark, and just a minute later, the visitors were in front as Aaron Edwards picked up a loose clearance on the edge of the box and unleashed an unstoppable shot past Littleford.

Guilsfield failed to muster any worth-

while chances and the dismissal of front runner Will Thomas in the 86th minute left the home side with a uphill task.

Flint duly notched a third as full back Ryan Davies' left foot strike gave his side a two goal cushion.

But there was still time for captain James Henderson to lash home a left footed volley in the final minute to give the hosts a glimmer of hope of rescuing the tie.

Gareth Jones' header then looped on to the crossbar in injury time, leaving Flint grateful to hear the final whistle at the end, although they were worthy winners for their performance over the 90 minutes.

After seeing their cup dreams end, Guilsfield will be out to get back on track when they host Holyhead Hotspur in the

league on Saturday as they bid to push for a top five finish.

LLANRHAEDR look increasingly doomed to relegation from the Cymru Alliance after their losing streak continued with a 3-2 home loss to 10-man Caersws.

Drought

Despite leading 2-1 at the break, the league's basement side were downed by a second half brace from Neil Mitchell, his first a near post header on 51 minutes before cutting in from the left to fire his second in at the near post.

Caersws, looking to keep alive their hopes of runners-up spot, had taken the lead when Iwan Lewis crashed the ball home into the top corner on 10 minutes, after a flag kick had been cleared to the

edge of the box. But the home side quickly rallied as Josh Wood levelled five minutes later from the penalty spot after keeper Dave Jones had been sent off for bringing down Ben White, Tom Richards taking over in goal.

Wood then got his second of the game on the half hour, but hopes of a much needed home win faded as the Bluebirds, despite a man short, bossed the second half and got their reward with a brace from Mitchell to end his goal drought.

With time and games running out, Llanrhaeadr desperately need to pick up points if they are to give themselves any hope of league survival, but faced a tricky clash at Cefn Druids last night (wed) before travelling to fellow strugglers Ruthin Town in a must win affair on Saturday.

TNS dream of the double is ended by injury-time strike

Bangor City 1 The New Saints 0

A LAST-GASP strike from Chris Jones ended The New Saints' pursuit of another league and cup double in a dramatic finish to the Welsh Cup semi-final at sunny Rhyl.

The cup holders, fresh from lifting the Welsh Premier crown seven days earlier, struggled to impose themselves against a Bangor outfit intent on avenging six-goal mauling in the league last month.

Even so, an often scrappy tie had looked set for extra time when, four minutes into injury time, Citizens keeper Lee Idzi launched a long kick upfield, the ball was flicked on through the defence for Jones to lob home from the edge of the box.

With referee Nick Pratt blowing for time straight from the re-start, there was no way back for the Saints whose dreams of repeating last season's league and cup double were shattered as they trudged off the Belle Vue pitch.

By contrast, Bangor's players and fans justifiably celebrated their ticket for the final - with success tasting even sweeter against the Oswestry side who have emerged tormentors in recent outings.

TNS were largely shackled for most part, given little room for manoeuvre by a Bangor side who proved a committed force throughout in a game of few clear-cut chances.

The holders' cause was not helped when substitute Sam Finley was red-carded 11 minutes from time for a wild challenge on Chris Roberts, but they still looked to have done enough to take the tie into extra time before Jones' late intervention.

Pounded

In the final, Bangor will now meet their old foes and derby rivals, Prestatyn Town, who themselves progressed courtesy of a 2-1 victory over Barry Town at Newtown's Latham Park.

Bangor, who have enjoyed their fair share of success in the Welsh Cup over the years, started brightly and had strong claims turned down that TNS midfielder Aaron Edwards had handled in the box in the first minute.

Then, five minutes later, Damian Allen headed over when well placed after a free kick had been nodded invitingly across goal by Peter Hoy.

With the Citizens up for the challenge, TNS were struggling to get into their stride, but the holders sounded a warning in the 10th minute when Ryan Fraughan pounced on a loose ball on the edge of the box, forcing keeper Idzi to parry his first-time effort to safety.

Bangor, however, continued to look a threat from set plays, with Les Davies glancing his header over the bar at the near post from an inswinging Allen corner midway through the first half.

At the other end,

FOOTBALL

by John Bridgwater



Mike Wilde battles with a Bangor player for the ball

Fraughan again tried his luck from distance, firing a deflected effort across the goal in the 24th minute, and moments later dispatched a first-time 20-yard volley that flew harmlessly wide.

Bangor, resolute and strong in the tackle, were giving their rivals little chance to impose themselves on a drying surface, with both camps feeding off half chances.

The second half took time to get going, little incident of note before, on the hour, Bangor's Chris Simm broke through from the left following a slip by Simon Spender, but was met by a solid block from Saints' keeper Paul Harrison as he advanced into the box.

Bangor continued to prove more than a match for their high flying rivals, as they enjoyed their fair share of possession and territory - with one goal always likely to separate the sides.

TNS had little joy going forward with their moves often petering out, but

almost got their noses in front on 74 minutes when Fraughan crossed from the left of the box, but keeper Idzi just managed to divert the ball from the onrushing Mike Wilde onto the post, with the keeper suffering a knock to his leg for his efforts.

However, the Saints' chances suffered a setback when Finley, a half time substitute for the injured Aeron Edwards, saw red for a flying challenge on Chris Roberts on 78 minutes.

Decisive

Sensing that the tide may have turned, Bangor pushed late on with Jones going close when volleying over from 14 yards as TNS struggled to clear their lines from a free kick.

Extra time, however, seemed to be looming when Bangor launched one final raid to produce the decisive moment courtesy of Jones' composed finish with the last kick of the game.



Mike Wilde's close range effort being deflected onto the post by Lee Idzi

Coach disappointed to concede such a late goal

TNS head coach Carl Darlington was philosophical after the one-goal Welsh Cup defeat to Bangor ended the Saints' hopes of completing the double.

"As much as you want to, you can't win every game," he said. "The lads have been exceptional since November, I could not fault them and to win the league so early is a great credit to them."

"The Welsh Cup is a one-off game, we always knew it was going to be tough, but there was nothing in it, and one goal always looked likely to settle it."

"Unfortunately there was a moment of madness from Sam Finley who was deservedly sent off for a reckless challenge that changed the complexion of the game. It was a key moment, and he will learn from it."

"However, even with 10 men, we were doing okay and defending well, and were confident we could take the game into extra time which would give us a chance to regroup."

"With just 20 seconds left, you're looking

to see the game out, so we were disappointed to concede a goal so late on."

He added: "We struggled to get the ball down on the pitch, and Bangor made it very difficult for us. Obviously, we would have loved to have made the final and won the cup again, but it was not to be."

BANGOR City boss Neville Powell hailed his side after progressing to their fifth Welsh Cup final in six seasons.

The Citizens had lost three times to The New Saints in the Welsh Premier League this season, but on this occasion they put the record straight.

No-one could have been prouder than all-Blues manager Powell, whose love affair with the Welsh Cup continues.

"Chris has a knack of scoring important goals, he gets in good positions and had knocked one over the bar not long before," he said.

"No-one deserved to get the winner more. I always felt we were going to pinch one with the balance of play in the last half hour."

Waterloo's colts and reserves in final clash

IT'S going to be an all-Waterloo final in the Tanners Cup after the club's colts and reserve team both progressed through tough semi tussles.

Waterloo Colts needed extra time before seeing off Llanfair reserves 5-4 in a thriller, Shaun Roberts firing a hat-trick with Ian McLeod and Chris Hughes also on the mark, while Aled Davies, Jan Richards, Aled Haynes and Rhys Roberts found the net at the other end.

In the final, the colts will meet the club's reserves who booked their ticket with a 3-1 passage against Newtown reserves courtesy of Ricky Lichfield, Andy Gwilt and Mike Booth.

LLANSANTFFRAID RES are through to the final of their Llansantffraid Village Cup after seeing off TREFOEN 4-2 in their last four clash, with Dale Lloyd the hero with all four goals, while Owen Davies and Gareth Morgan responded.

CHURCHSTOKE bowed out of the Mid Wales Trophies Consolation Cup with a 2-0 exit at Abermule reserves, whose Lewis Sim bagged a brace, including a penalty.

LLANYMYNECH went out 2-1 to Berriew in their second round clash, Rob Jones netting for Llany, but goals from Jan Roberts and Jake Evans saw the visitors through.

Under-13s clinch spot to battle the Colts

OSWESTRY Boys under-13s clinched their place in the final of the Shropshire Junior Cup with a 2-1 passage at Llanymynech - and now meet Shrewsbury Junior Colts as they bid for some silverware.

The victorious visitors settled well and created a couple of early chances, and got their noses in front with an own goal when the Llany left back fired past his own keeper.

Llanymynech rallied and forced the Colts home following a corner to level matters at half time and, buoyed by the goal, they started the second half on the offensive.

However, Oswestry fought back and regained the lead with 18 minutes remaining when a fine flick from Brandon Rogers beat the keeper after a deft pass from Matthew Cooper.

After that, they defended resolutely to see out the game and book their place in the final.

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Retired officer starts new club

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Rugby

Round-up of the big games

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OSWESTRY Sports Desk 01952 241473

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Waterloo's teams all in race for silverware

THERE was plenty of cup cheer for Waterloo Rovers as all three of the club's senior sides boosted hopes of silverware this season.

While the first team booked their ticket for the last four of the Spar Mid Wales League Cup last weekend, it's going to be an all-Waterloo final in the Tanners Cup after the club's colts and reserve team both progressed through tough semi-final tussles.

The Colts needed extra time before seeing off Llanfair reserves 5-4, Shaun Roberts firing a hat-trick, and in the final they will meet familiar faces in the form of the club's reserves who booked their ticket with a 3-1 passage against Newtown reserves.

Waterloo's first team kept their flag flying in the Spar Cup with a 3-2 extra-time win at Llandrindod Wells, and in the semi-final, they will now meet Rhosgch.

Waterloo return to league duty on Saturday as they bid to push for a top-five finish when they travel to struggling Newbridge.

Resurgent WELSHPOOL, buoyed by their derby win over Waterloo, bid for their sixth win in seven outings when they host Carno tomorrow night.

Ernie leads side again

IT'S as you were for Welshpool's cricketers whose first team will again be led this season by Ernie Birch, with son Joe the vice captain.

The Maesdyre side look to build on last season as they open their Shropshire League division one campaign with a home clash against Reman Services a week on Saturday, with the club having been busy preparing their pitch after a harsh winter.

FRANKTON, newly promoted to the premier division this season, open their season with a tricky trip to Newport, also a week on Saturday.

Ladies on the brink of title

TABLE-topping Welshpool are on the brink of the title in the North Wales Ladies Hockey League division one title after a crucial 3-0 win against one of their rivals, Ruthin with all the goals coming from Caroline Jones.

Welshpool's final game of the season is at Llandudno on a date to be arranged and they will need to win to deny title rivals Newtown.



Daniel Jones with his medals

Daniel blazes way to more medals

WELSH swimming champion Daniel Jones continues to blaze his way to more golds – and records.

The Oswestry Otters swimmer won all 14 events he entered in the Shropshire County championships in distances from 50m to 400m in all four strokes, and in the process set seven new county records – some going back as far as 10 years.

He was also in golden form in the Welsh National Youth Championships, in Swansea, where he took two gold medals, in the 50m and 100m freestyle, and managed to set two new championship records with those swims.

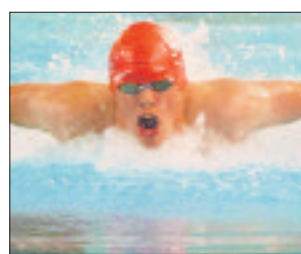
Jones also took two silver medals, losing by less than half a second in 100 and 200m breaststroke and he got a bronze

medal in the 100m butterfly. He even came fourth in Wales in his weakest stroke, backstroke, but still managed a GB national qualifying time in this event.

This takes his tally up to six qualifying times for the GB Championships in July at Ponds Forge in Sheffield, leaving him very satisfied with his performances as they were all personal best times.

Before the Sheffield event, he is travelling to Switzerland with the junior Welsh squad to compete at the end of May, while he also has the Midland Regional Youth Championships in Corby.

Jones has trained with Oswestry Otters since the age of eight and has been a member of the Swim Wales regional squad since he was 12.



Daniel Jones powers his way to a medal

COACH WANTS TNS TO END ON A HIGH

HEAD coach Carl Darlington insists there is still plenty to play for this season despite The New Saints missing out on their quest for a league and cup double.

A week after lifting the Welsh Premier crown, the Saints saw their hopes of adding the Welsh Cup dashed after suffering a last gasp 1-0 semi-final defeat to Bangor City at Rhyl.

Although there is little at stake in their remaining four games, starting with tomorrow night's home clash with second placed Airbus UK (7.45), Darlington stressed the Saints won't allow the season to peter out.

"We're 13 points clear and we want to win our last four games and try and win the league by as many points as possible, so there is still a lot to play for," he said. "If we can do that, then we can look back on a fantastic season."

"We want to finish the season well, and take that form into the Champions League in the summer, and there's now an opportunity for players to put in some good performances before then."

"We've got Airbus and Bangor still to play, so we can also dictate who finishes runners-up."

"Hopefully, the disappointment of last Saturday

by John Bridgwater

will galvanise us, and the players still have something to prove as they want to win the league by as many points as possible."

Aeron Edwards will not be playing any further part in the season after taking a knock to his knee last Saturday, but the injury was not as serious as first feared and he should be back for pre-season.

Disappointed

Midfielder Sam Finley is suspended after being sent off in the semi-final, but Chris Seargeant is set to return after his hamstring problem.

Darlington, meanwhile, was philosophical after last Saturday's Welsh Cup defeat to Bangor which ended the Saints' hopes of completing

the double. "As much as you want to, you can't win every game," he said. "The lads have been exceptional since November. I could not fault them and to win the league so early is a great credit to them."

"The Welsh Cup is a one-off game, we always knew it was going to be tough, but there was nothing in it."

"With just 20 seconds left, you're looking to see the game out, so we were disappointed to concede a goal so late on. It was a poor goal to concede, straight from their keeper, but their lad took it well."

"We struggled to get the ball down on the pitch. Obviously, we would have loved to have won the cup again, but it was not to be."

Morda looking to bounce back

MORDA United will be looking to bounce back after seeing hopes of cup success ended with two defeats in three days.

After last Saturday's disappointing 4-2 loss at AFC Ludlow in the quarter-final of the Mercian Regional League premier division cup, the Weston Road men were downed 2-0 by Instones in the semi-final of the Powell Cup at Wem on Monday night.

While his side failed to perform against Ludlow, boss Craig Rogers was heartened by the display from his makeshift team against

Instones. So, after two cup losses, he will be looking for his side to get their league title pursuit up and running again with yet another away fixture, at FC Hodnet, on Saturday.

"We need to shake last weekend off now, what's happened has happened, and we must make sure we use the anger and disappointment in the correct way and focus on three points this Saturday."

"Winning a cup would have been nice, but the league is our priority."



Saints keeper and captain Paul Harrison clutches the ball under pressure from Bangor's top scorer Chris Simm in their cup semi-final defeat

Opener is tough test for Oswestry

OSWESTRY get an early chance to measure themselves against one of the top sides in the Birmingham Cricket League on Saturday when they head to premier division outfit Wombourne in the Graham Williamson Trophy.

Having gained promotion to division two this term, there is plenty of optimism in the Oswestry camp as they look to continue their climb this time around.

But they face a tough trophy task on the opening day at Wombourne, with their preparations not helped by the recent freezing weather – with the weight of snow destroying all their nets.

Win or lose on Saturday, Oswestry are away the following week to another premier division side, Wallall or holders Shrewsbury, in the 40 overs a side competition. The league season gets underway at home to Water Orton on Saturday, April 27.

Overseas

Despite having to practise indoors, club captain Mike Robinson confirmed: "It's all systems go, and everyone's looking forward to it."

"It will be a tough clash at Wombourne who have done tremendously well in the past two seasons. To take on a premier league side will be a tough challenge, but it will be good practice for the start of the season."

South African all rounder Ryan Fynn will be Oswestry's overseas player this season and will make his debut on Saturday.

The new arrival, from Port Elizabeth, is a medium pace bowler and useful batsman plus he is also a coach.

Keeper Dean Suter and opening bowler Paul Robinson, back at the club after a two-year break, both miss the opener, so Martin Chambers, who has returned to the club.

● Oswestry Cricket Club holds its junior section registration evening at the clubhouse, Morda Road, on Friday (7pm).



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